

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England	July 3	Hankow	Aug. 3
San Francisco	2	Yokohama	July 28
Hongkong	Aug. 4	Nagasaki	Aug. 2
Tientsin	2	Foochow	2

Shanghai mail advices of 20th June, were received in London on the 27th July.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, AUG. 7, 1896

MR. SCOTT ON THE MIXED COURT.

IN beginning his Report for 1895, which forms an appendix to Mr. Jamieson's, on the Tribunal in the Maloo which is well named "Mixed," Mr. Scott gives the two Houses of Parliament, to whom his report is presented, and the general public, to whom the whole pamphlet of thirty-nine pages is sold for twopence-halfpenny, a very brief and not altogether accurate account of Shanghai. It covers, he says, "an area of some 1,800 acres along the north bank of the Woosung River. Originally a long stretch of paddy-land, the sites of the English and American Settlements were selected in 1845 and intended for the occupation of European merchants only. Year by year, however, the Chinese gradually obtained a footing within these limits. In 1870 they numbered 75,000; in 1880 upwards of 107,000 and 168,000 in 1890, and now according to the census of 1895, there are, including the floating population, fully 250,000 residents in the Settlement. In addition, it is estimated that over 100,000 Chinese annually frequent the Settlement from the interior, from the native Shanghai city and adjacent suburbs, all of whom thus come under Municipal cognisance for the time being. Upwards of 5,000 Europeans reside in Shanghai." For the benefit of distant readers we may add that the foreign Settlement stretches along the west bank of the Huangpu, as well as the north bank of the Wusung River, and that the term "Europeans" includes all non-Chinese nationalities. We may also add that land in the Settlement, not river frontage, has been sold quite recently at something over £10,000 an acre, and its value is constantly increasing.

To keep this community, which will soon, if it does not already, number 300,000, so rapid has been the growth of Shanghai since the war, in order the Municipal Council employs a police force numbering 506, of whom 54 are Europeans, 69 Sikhs, and 383 Chinese. The Council has no magisterial or judicial powers; subjects or citizens of

Treaty Powers are tried by their Consular representatives, and all others, including Chinese committing offences within the limits of the Settlement, by the Mixed Court, which was instituted in 1869. Mr. Scott thus describes it:—

"This court sits daily, and is composed of a Chinese magistrate and a consular officer as assessor, with power to hear and determine all cases brought before it, except charges of murder. This latter crime necessitates endless formalities in Chinese law, and can only be dealt with by the higher provincial authorities. In the matter of punishment, the Mixed Court can fine, flog, imprison, or deport. Hardened offenders and notorious rowdies, amenable to no sense of discipline, are generally sentenced to be cangued, i.e., to wear a wooden collar round their neck for a period variously ranging up to 1 month. The Chinese criminal classes have a wholesome horror and dread of this punishment. They are exposed to public view, incurring ignominy and ridicule, besides being kept in strict restraint. Flogging is resorted to in cases of aggravated assault, and for well-known thieves prior to being deported. This punishment is inflicted by the *yamen* runners after the rising of the court, and consists usually of 100 to 200 blows.

"Female prisoners are detained in the Mixed Court under charge of a female warder. All other criminals are handed over to the police to undergo their sentence in the municipal jail, and the average weekly number of such convicts during 1895 amounted to 120 prisoners, towards whose maintenance the sum of 5,900 taels (tael equals 3s.) was paid over from the fines recovered by the court for gambling, breach of municipal regulations, and other offences."

While it is a common thing to laugh at the anomalies of the Mixed Court, and the semi-amateur justice that is administered there, Mr. Scott justly remarks that with its aid the administration of the Settlement works quietly and smoothly. This is due to the tact and discretion of the Council and the police, and the willing co-operation of the native officials. "The rule and practice is, no Chinese subject within Settlement limits can be arrested by the native officials, except by warrant of the Mixed Court, countersigned by the Senior Consul, or the Consul of the foreigner under whom the native is serving, and this warrant must be executed by and through the Municipal police. Ordinarily in China anyone is liable to be seized by a claimant, dragged into Court, and held to bond. Apart from all question of business advantages or facilities, it is this freedom from arbitrary arrest which induces so many Chinese to select the foreign settlement as their permanent home, and the influx

of residents continues year by year." At the same time, the strict order maintained by the Council through its police, with the hearty co-operation of the Consuls, prevents Shanghai from becoming a Chinese Alsatia.

Mr. Scott gives a table showing the nature and number of the offences tried before the Mixed Court in the last five years. They numbered 5,600 in 1891, 5,823 in 1892, 7,315 in 1893, 10,123 in 1894 and 14,290 in 1895. The rapid increase is all in very trivial offences, the criminal calendar remaining stationary as far as serious charges are concerned. For instance, the 14,290 offences last year included 8,781 nuisances, 1,555 larceny from dwellings, etc., 1,117 misdemeanour, 532 fighting, etc., and 524 assault; while there were only 5 charges of murder, 4 of robbery, 2 of forgery, and 1 of manslaughter. There were 389 cases of gambling, but of these only 10 were serious. Before leaving this part of his subject, Mr. Scott makes the following useful remarks:—

"The one case of manslaughter appearing in the return for 1895 exemplifies the law and practice of China, and is especially interesting as bearing on charges brought against Europeans in respect to shooting and other accidents. Chinese law recognises the principle of the parties in such cases arranging terms privately by paying compensation. No prosecution can be initiated by the authorities without a formal charge duly lodged by the relatives of the deceased. If the defendant succeeds in coming to terms as to compensation, the *tipao*, or local headman, presents to the magistrate, on behalf of the plaintiffs, a petition equivalent to *nolle prosequi*, and the case is then closed. This system and principle of money indemnity in cases of manslaughter, is regularly recognised among the Chinese, the sole point to be determined between the parties being the amount of pecuniary satisfaction obtainable."

The Civil calendar of the Mixed Court in 1895 was a remarkably light one, containing only 53 cases in all, against 92 in 1894. Of these, in 39 the decision was for the plaintiff, in 2 for the defendant; 5 were settled out of Court, in 5 the defendant absconded, in 1 the claim was withdrawn, and 1 was arbitrated. When trade is flourishing, as it was last year, business languishes in the Mixed Court, and "at the same time the disastrous experiences of 1893 and 1894 have compelled caution on the part of the foreign importer, and eliminated the crowd of irresponsible native brokers who figured so frequently in the Mixed Court during those two years."

Mr. Scott reiterates the advice that has been given constantly during the last thirty years as to the danger that arises from the lax manner in which merchants make contracts with natives, and from the careless way in which so-called "security chops," or guarantees, are drawn and executed. He pays a just tribute to the general utility of the institution, and he winds up by saying:

"In the general working of the Court, I have much pleasure in acknowledging the uniform courtesy and co-operation of the magistrate. Personal interviews and friend-

ly discussions tend greatly to facilitate the despatch of business. Cases, civil and criminal, are at once brought on for hearing, and every assistance is rendered to suitors in the conduct of their claims. British plaintiffs incur no legal or court fees, and that they are satisfied with the decisions of the Court is shown by the fact that during 1895 no appeal has been recorded except in one case where the Chinese defendant, relying on his high official rank, attempted to defy the magistrate. Application, however, to the Viceroy resulted in the defendant's submission to the Court, and full compliance with its decree."

Summary of News.

THE R.M.S. *Empress of China* with the Canadian mail of the 13th of July arrived here on the 1st inst.

THE N.D.L. s.s. *Sachsen*, with Berlin mail of the 29th of June, arrived here on the 2nd inst.

THE French mail of the 4th of July arrived here this morning by the M.M. Co.'s steamer *Saghalien*.

A MAIL leaves to-morrow morning for Europe, by the P. & O. Co.'s steamer *Mirzapore*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SUPPLIED THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY EXCLUSIVELY TO THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

PROGRESS IN THE HOUSE.

London, 30th July.

The Irish Land Bill has been passed by the House of Commons.

A STRAIGHTFORWARD OFFER.

Mr. Cecil Rhodes offers to come to London and stand his trial if the prosecution desire.

A CURB ON GREECE.

The Powers are sending a collective note to Athens, that unless Greece follows the previous advice of the Powers, they will allow the Sultan to restore order.

THE ENQUIRY AT LAST.

1st August.

The House of Commons have agreed upon a select committee to enquire into the administration of the Chartered Company, including the responsibility of Imperial officials.

ANOTHER VICTORY FOR THE VISITORS.

The Australian Eleven has beaten Surrey by seven wickets.

THE DISPOSAL OF THE RAIDERS.

Dr. Jameson and the other prisoners have been removed to Wormwood Scrubs, where they will be treated as second-class misdemeanants.

A RAILROAD DISASTER IN THE STATES.

London, 3rd August.

An excursion has collided with an express train near Atlantic City, and fifty persons have been killed and many injured.

CLEMENCY TO THE RAIDERS.

Sir Matthew White Ridley, Home Secretary, has advised H.M. the Queen to extend her clemency and grant treatment as first-class misdemeanants to Dr. Jameson and the other prisoners,

who have therefore been sent back to Holloway.

THE CHINESE ENVOY.

H.E. Li Hung-chang has arrived in London. His reception was of the simplest nature.

PROGRESS IN AFRICA.

The House of Commons has passed the Uganda Railway Bill.

THE EFFERVESCENCE IN THE BALKANS.

Several Greek regiments have been ordered to Thessaly to watch the frontier.

THE VISITORS VANQUISHED.

Earl Delawar's Eleven has beaten the Australians by four wickets.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR RHODESIA.

The 9th Lancers are to embark for Durban at once.

THE FRANCO-RUSSIAN ENTENTE.

It appears to be settled that T.I.M. the Czar and Czarina will visit Paris in September.

THE TROUBLE IN CRETE. ENGLAND ACCUSED OF ISOLATION.

London, 4th August.

France, Russia, Germany, and Austria are in favour of a blockade of Crete, which would prevent the landing of Greek volunteers and arms, leaving the Turks free to restore order.

Great Britain dissents, although agreeing to a joint mediation to induce Greece to fulfil her duties towards the Porte, and to bring the Cretans to accept a reasonable compromise.

The German and Austrian Press accuse Great Britain of disturbing the concert of the Powers by a policy of selfish isolation.

H.E. LI IN LONDON.

London, 5th August.

The *Times* states that the real object of H.E. Li Hung-chang's visit to England is to obtain British sanction to an increase in the Tariff, the basis of which, through the fall in the price of silver, is now radically altered.

Russia, France, and Germany have already assented, but the real decision rests with Great Britain whose trade represents eighty per cent of the whole.

The *Times* remarks that England, before consenting to doubling the Tariff, must secure an adequate commercial *quid pro quo*. It further states that it is definitely decided that China shall have a new Army and Navy, but that the extent of this reform depends upon the amount derivable from the increased Tariff.

H.E. Li Hung-chang has virtually ordered artillery from Germany and rifles from France; but he is resolved to have the Navy constructed in England, upon English lines, and with English officers.

H.E. LI AT THE SUMMER PALACE.

London, 6th August.

H.E. Li Hung-chang has had an audience of H.M. the Queen at Osborne. THE GOVERNMENT DEFEATED IN THE LORDS.

The Government has been defeated by a majority of nine in the House of

Lords on an amendment to the Irish Labour (? Land) Bill.

This in itself is not important, but it augurs badly for the prospects of the Irish Land Bill.

"W.G." AS GREAT AS EVER.

Gloucestershire playing Sussex at Bristol made a total of five hundred and fifty-one runs in the first innings; of which Dr. W. G. Grace made three hundred and one.

THE VICTORIOUS VISITORS.

The Australians have beaten Warwickshire by an innings and sixty runs.

ARRIVALS FROM EGYPT QUARANTINED IN SPAIN.

Madrid, 19th July. Arrivals from Egypt have been officially declared infected. The mail steamers from Manila will be quarantined.

ILLNESS OF THE POPE.

Madrid, 17th July. The Pope is ill, and has been compelled to suspend his audiences.

DISSENSIONS AMONGST THE CUBAN INSURGENTS.

The insurgents of the eastern part of Cuba are divided amongst themselves on the election of a successor to the late José Maceo in the command held by the deceased. It is said that many are in consequence going over to the Spaniards.

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN SPAIN AND GERMANY.

Madrid, 17th July. The new commercial agreement between Spain and Germany comes into force on Friday.—*From the Manila Comercio.*

THE Director of Sicawei Observatory reports: Friday, 31st July, 10 a.m.—*State of the weather on the 30th.*—The typhoon has entered land near Macao and advances over the continent, losing its energy. Low pressures to the W. of Tientsin. Very hot day at Sicawei (maximum 99°2 Fahr.)—*State on the morning of the 31st.* The barometer still rises and the heat continues. *Probabilities, 5 p.m.*—Continuation of hot weather, with fresh monsoon over the entire coast.—Saturday, 1st August, 10 a.m.—*State of the weather on the 31st ult.*—Area of low pressures to the N. of the Gulf of Pechili and high pressures in the S. Usual monsoon over the entire coast. Very hot day at Shanghai. *State on the morning of the 1st August.*—Barometer higher than the average. Manila announces a new depression over the Pacific to the E. of Luzon. Sunday, 2nd August, 10 a.m.—*State of the weather on the 1st.*—Area of low pressures between Mongolia and Manchuria. High pressures continue over Tongking and the S. of China. A new depression exists E. of the Philippines over the Pacific; according to information from the S. it is advancing towards the China Sea. Very hot day at Shanghai. *State on the morning of the 2nd.*—The typhoon of the S. crosses Luzon during the night. It should be over the China Sea, advancing N.W., to the south of the 15th parallel. *Probabilities, 5 p.m.*—The fine weather is likely to continue. Fresh breezes between S.E. and S.W. north of the Formosa Channel; variable winds in the S. The typhoon is in the China Sea, and probably moves towards the coast of Tongking. A telegram received from Bolinao on Saturday afternoon says the typhoon entered the island in Lat. 13°. The centre passed S. of Manila; direction S.E. and N.W. The following telegram was received from Hongkong at 2.15 p.m.: Typhoon seems to have passed into China Sea, and to be now situated S.W. of Luzon. It will probably move N.W.—Monday, 3rd August, 10 a.m.—*State of the weather on the 2nd.*—The typhoon of the China Sea continues moving

N.W. then, according to a telegram from Manila, recurves N. towards the 15° of latitude. Fairly deep depression between Mongolia and Manchuria.—*State on the morning of the 3rd.*—At Shanghai hot weather and barometer above the average. The typhoon must have reached the N.W. of Bolinao. *Probabilities, 5 p.m.*—The fine weather is likely to continue. Moderate breezes between S.E. and S.W. to the N. of Shanghai and down to the Formosa Channel. In the S. the influence of the typhoon is likely to be felt. The following telegram has been received from Manila:—The typhoon is now to the N.W. of Manila, and is recurving to the N. A telegram from Hongkong says:—Typhoon 300 miles S.S.E. of Hongkong, moving N.W. According to the latter telegram the centre would advance towards the N. coast of the island of Hainan.—6 p.m. A telegram has just been received from Hongkong stating:—Typhoon probably moving towards W.N.W. Gale not expected in Hongkong.—Tuesday, 4th August, 10 a.m.—*State of the weather on the 23rd.*—Area of high pressures at sea below Japan. The typhoon in the China Sea advances approximately N.W., and according to a telegram from Hongkong, moves towards the N. of Hainan. Hot weather, and well established monsoon at the estuary of the Yangtze. *State on the morning of the 4th.*—The barometer, already higher than the average, still rises at Shanghai.—*Probabilities, 5 p.m.*—Hot weather. The electrical state of the atmosphere renders a thunderstorm likely. Moderate summer monsoon over the entire coast.—Wednesday, 5th August, 10 a.m.—*State of the weather on the 4th.*—High pressures over the Pacific, from Japan down to the Philippine Islands and over the S. of the China Sea. Area of low pressures over Mongolia. Very hot weather, with a thunderstorm in the S.E.—*State on the morning of the 5th.*—The barometer still rises and the weather is very hot at the estuary of the Yangtze. *Probabilities, 5 p.m.*—Hot weather. Continuation of moderate monsoon over the entire coast.—Thursday, 6th August, 10 a.m.—*State of the atmosphere on the 5th.*—High pressures over the Pacific between Japan and the Philippines. A rather deep depression appears over Mongolia to the N.W. of Tientsin; hot weather at Shanghai.—*State on the morning of the 6th.*—The barometer stands still above the average along the Yangtze; it falls rapidly at Vladivostok. *Probabilities 5 p.m.*—Hot weather, liable to change. Moderate monsoon over the N. coast; variable winds in the S. The following telegram was received from Manila at 11.20 a.m.:—A depression exists in the Pacific to the E.S.E. of Manila. A telegram received from Hongkong at 3.45 p.m. says:—A depression exists in the Pacific E. of Luzon.

THE average minimum of the thermometer in the Settlement in July was 76°·11, the average maximum 86°·30, and the mean 81°·20, against 74°·97, 84°·67, and 79°·82 respectively, in July 1895. The rainfall in July was 4.10 inches, and rain fell measurably on 12 days; against 4.62 inches, and 12 days in July, 1895, and an average of 5.55 inches and 9 days for the fourteen years 1882-1895. On the 23rd of July the lowest reading of the barometer on record at Shanghai was noted, 28.80 inches.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

(Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.)

1896.				1895.			
		Fahr. Thermometer.				Rainfall in inches.	
		Min.	Max.				
July	31	83°·0	99°·0	July	31	81°·2	98°·0
Aug.	1	83°·9	99°·1	Aug.	1	83°·8	99°·0
"	2	82°·1	98°·0	"	2	83°·4	99°·3
"	3	80°·1	96°·0	"	3	83°·0	100°·7
"	4	79°·1	98°·2	"	4	82°·9	101°·0
"	5	80°·5	98°·2	"	5	81°·0	100°·8
"	6	83°·0	98°·9	"	6	81°·0	98°·6

1895.				Rainfall in inches.			
		Fahr. Thermometer.					
		Min.	Max.				
July	31	81°·2	98°·0	July	31	81°·2	98°·0
Aug.	1	83°·8	99°·0	Aug.	1	83°·8	99°·0
"	2	83°·4	99°·3	"	2	83°·4	99°·3
"	3	83°·0	100°·7	"	3	83°·0	100°·7
"	4	82°·9	101°·0	"	4	82°·9	101°·0
"	5	81°·0	100°·8	"	5	81°·0	100°·8
"	6	81°·0	98°·6	"	6	81°·0	98°·6

It has been already mentioned in these columns that the French idea is that British influence in the valley of the Yangtze should terminate westward at Ichang, and that Szechuan, the richest province in China, should be considered as within the French sphere of influence. It was with this view that the French have sent a man of the calibre of M. Haas to Chungking as Consul, while Great Britain is represented by a junior, who carries no weight with the officials, and is unable, if he were anxious, to do anything to push British enterprise. We now hear that Frenchmen, energetically backed by Mr. Haas, will probably force the weary officials of Szechuan to give them concessions for working the petroleum and salt springs, besides probably the gold and other mines with which the western provinces of China abound; and they will probably get any contracts for machinery which the Viceroy has to give out. It is ominous that, as we are now informed, the officials at Chungking have withdrawn from all the contracts they had previously practically settled with British and American agents.

A SOLEMN Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the late Mr. Joseph Haas, Consul-General for Austria-Hungary, was celebrated on Saturday morning in St. Joseph's Church, French Concession. The church was draped in black and silver, and in front of the chancel a catafalque, covered with the flag of the empire-kingdom, and bearing the deceased's official uniform, sword, and decorations, was erected, surrounded by a number of lighted tapers. The service was very largely attended, and all sections of the community were represented. Besides the foreign Consuls in uniform, their staffs, and members of both Municipal Councils, there were present the Taotai, with his English interpreter, the Colonel of the city garrison, the *chih sien*, the sub-prefect, and the magistrates of both Mixed Courts. The service was celebrated by Father Rouxel, S.J., assisted by Father Colombel, S.J. (Deacon), and Father Frin, S.J. (Sub-Deacon). The music was plain Gregorian chant, the choir being composed of missionary priests passing through Shanghai. Mr. J. J. Mansfield was the organist. The service which lasted nearly an hour was most impressive. Sir N. J. Hannen was prevented by illness from being present.

We are glad to learn that, so far as is known, no foreigner is responsible for the suggestion that the Bund foreshore should be sold.

Two advertisements which appear in the N.-C. Daily News will be read with a good deal of surprise, for they announce a totally unexpected increase in the telegraph rates from Shanghai, obviously as the result of the Imperial Chinese Telegraphs Administration abandoning its independent attitude. The identity of the terms of the announcement, and the "outpayments to other Telegraph administrations" being given in each case as a reason are curious, if not convincing. A time like the present, when our means of communicating by cable with the rest of the world are in a state of disorganisation and interruption hardly appeals to us as a good one for a general increase of charges, unless it be that merchants are to be made to furnish the means of providing a system more in accord with modern requirements.

Those who use the wires between China and Europe will be glad to know that the

Cable Companies' standard rate will be reduced, from the 1st of July next, from 8.50 francs to 7 francs a word.

MR. R. E. BREDON, Commissioner of Customs, returned from leave on Tuesday by the *Saikio Maru*, and leaves for Hankow to-morrow.

WE regret to announce that Mr. John W. Powell, who has been ailing during the last day or two, died suddenly in his house in the Nanking Road on Monday afternoon. His widow was at the time on her way to Hongkong on a visit.

THE case of the owners of the s.s. *Onwo* against the owners of the s.s. *Neichwang* arising out of the collision in the Huangpu on the 30th of April last, came on Tuesday before Sir Nicholas J. Hannen, in H.B.M.'s Supreme Court. His Lordship explained that from various causes, it had been impossible to obtain two Assessors who might not have to leave before the case was finished. It was then agreed to take the evidence of Mr. Cooper, the second officer of the *Onwo*, and to adjourn the case to a date to be fixed some time in October. Mr. W. V. Drummond and Mr. J. C. Hanson appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. Francis Q.C., and Mr. W. A. C. Platt for the defendants.

THE Marquis of Tweeddale has been appointed Chairman of the Eastern Extension, A., & C. Telegraph Co. in the place of the late Sir John Pender, M.P.

SOME sixteen of our leading residents took advantage of the Bank Holiday to start on Saturday afternoon in the chartered steamer *Haeting*, Capt. Paramore, on a voyage of exploration to the Saddles, intending to return on Tuesday morning. The *Haeting* duly returned on Tuesday morning. The expedition had a delightful time: they left here on Saturday afternoon, arrived on Saturday night, spent Sunday and Monday at the Saddles, swimming, rowing, sailing and walking, and left on Monday night. The air was perfect in the day-time, and at night the thermometer went down to 74°. The explorers speak in the highest terms of the comfort and attention given them on the *Haeting*.

A FIRE broke out at about 1.15 a.m. on Wednesday morning in a Chinese house, situated in an alleyway off the Tsungming Road, Hongkew, through a lighted candle falling on some paper in the cook-house. The firemen turned out with their usual promptitude, but by the time they arrived on the scene the fire had spread to the adjoining houses. The confined nature of the seat of the conflagration rendered it a work of great difficulty for the firemen to get at it, and it was not until 4.30 o'clock that the flames were extinguished. Two streams were left to play on the debris until 6 o'clock. Eight houses were completely destroyed, and several others were badly damaged by fire and water. The buildings, which are owned by Messrs. E. D. Sassoon and Co., were insured, but the contents of five of the houses were uninsured.

MR. SHEN Tun-ho, formerly Assistant Director of the Nanking Naval Academy, has been appointed by Viceroy Liu to be chief of the military Secretariat of the German-drilled brigade, lately transferred from Nanking to Woosung.

NEWS has been received at this port of the death at Hsiangshan, near Macao, of Mr. Tong Ying-sing, a younger brother of Mr. Tong Mow-chee of this port and of the late Mr. Tong King-sing. The deceased gentleman was for many years the Foochow Manager of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company.

AN Imperial edict of the 4th instant promotes Yang Ju, Chinese Minister to the United States, Spain, Peru and the Brazils, to the position of Vice-President of the Court of Censors. H.E. may therefore be expected to return to China some time during the latter part of the year to take up his new post.

ON Monday, the 24th day of the 6th moon, being the traditional natal anni-

versary of the God of Thunder, all his devotees abstained for 24 hours from eating or drinking anything that had passed through the fiery element (fire). This, is a relic of Shamanism which in ancient times had a foothold in this country, and which Buddhism absorbed in deference to the popular beliefs of the time.

ALTHOUGH a large number of applications for relief have been filed at the Taotai's *yamen* by the relatives of the *Onwo* disaster victims, they are apparently irregularly drawn up, and this has necessitated the publishing of another proclamation by Huang Taotai, who informs the applicants that Mr. Drummond has drawn up a proper form for the purpose in view, which the Taotai has had printed and has ready for distribution to those interested.

A YANGTZE rowing war junk, while transporting the coffin of a mandarin to Hunan, was overtaken by the typhoon of the 23rd ultimo while passing Kiukiang, and immediately capsized, with all on board. Fortunately the occupants of the gunboat were saved by boats belonging to the Yangtze life-saving station near by, but the coffin was carried off by wind and wave and was not found until a week later, some 200 miles from the scene of the catastrophe.

THE local mandarins have received instructions from Peking to celebrate H.I.M. Kuang Hsi's 26th birthday anniversary on Wednesday (5th instant) instead of on the 7th (28th day of the 6th moon) which is the real day. The reason for this change is said to be owing to the death of his Majesty's mother, the late Princess Ch'un, whose principal funeral services have been fixed, for astrological reasons, for the 7th which happens to be the anniversary of her son's birthday.

NEWS received from Hsiuchoufu on the Yellow River, reports that in a recent conflict between Shantung village militia and a band of Hsielou insurgents belonging to the Great Sword Society, the former obtained a complete victory, capturing twenty-two of the insurgents who were handed to the Shantung authorities to be dealt with. The "Supreme Head" of the Society is a man named P'ang Tien-sien who still has a large body of adherents and is expected to give more trouble. The Roman Catholic Fathers whose churches in Hsiuchoufu territory were destroyed by the insurgents have lately come to an arrangement with the mandarins with respect to the amount of indemnity, etc., and the rebuilding of these churches will commence as soon as the country is again quiet.

AN Amoy correspondent says that the Japanese are flooding Formosa with paper money which the Chinese buy at a discount and then send back to Japan and convert into silver at par. The Japanese authorities send back to Japan the silver they receive in exchange for the notes and it is a question of some anxiety with the foreign merchants in Formosa, as to how soon the silver in circulation will be used up, and what, beside the *yen* notes, will be the currency of Formosa. He says that a good profit is to be made by taking silver to Formosa, buying bank notes at a discount, and taking them back to Japan for re-conversion at par into silver. It is not generally realised that the Japanese Government and the banks of issue make an enormous profit on their notes by the destruction of the latter. It is calculated that thousands of *yen* of paper money were destroyed in the late seismic wave disaster, while the conflagrations that are so common in Japan are accountable for the disappearance of a very large amount annually.

VICEROY Wang of Tientsin who was reported in these columns the other day as having been handed over to the Board of Civil Appointments for the determination of adequate penalties for memorialising in favour of Wang Lien, Treasurer of Chihli, has, according to news

received yesterday from Peking, been reported to the Throne as liable to be degraded three steps in substantive rank and to be transferred to some lower post befitting his degraded rank. Furthermore, he is not to be allowed the privilege of a "set-off" of his good conduct record against his recent misdeemeanor. The Emperor, however, apparently thinks much of the Viceroy, for his Majesty has commuted the sentence to degradation of three steps of rank but with permission to retain office as Viceroy of Chihli. It will be remembered that Wang Lien, the Chihli Treasurer, had been handed over to the Board for officially telegraphing to the Governor of Hunan asking for the lenient treatment of a cashiered secretary, and that instead of waiting for the report of the Board, the Viceroy Wang memorialised in favour of the delinquent Treasurer.

UNDER date the 29th of July last, the Manager of the Tsungli Yamen has returned thanks for a present of some copies of Dr. Young J. Allen's History in Chinese of the late war with Japan. He says he has presented them to the Princes and other State Ministers. He is ordered by them to say in reply that the book is very full and faithful, that its tone is generously kind, and its feeling is honest and sincere and as to the narrative of what happened from beginning to end the effect is to lead the reader to much close enquiry and reflection. The book shows insight thorough and far-reaching, and close attention to the politics of the time. The Ministers add that they will not fail carefully to read the book and they wish the Manager to return their special thanks for the copies sent.

Two English explorers are now well on their way to China by routes north of Tibet. Captain Deasy, of the 16th Lancers, has taken the Khotan route and will work through Chinese Turkistan to Batang, while Captain Welby, of the 18th Hussars, has gone more to the west. Leh was the starting point in each case. The journeys will last six months. At the same time it is stated that the Chinese authorities have decided not to grant any more passports for the present to European travellers desirous of entering Tibet.

"W.G.'s" score of 301 in the match between Gloucestershire and Sussex, is within 33 of a score made by him exactly twenty years ago, and which holds the record of being the second best individual score ever made in a first class match. During that year he also made 318 playing against Yorkshire. The highest individual score on record in a first-class match is 424 made by Mr. A. C. MacLaren for Lancashire v. Somerset in July last year.

THE *Shengchi*, while on her voyage from Shanghai to Chefoo, fell in with a large dismantled junk, a little north of Shawei-shan. The junk was flying signals of distress, and although a heavy sea was running at the time, the steamer was stopped and a boat, with the chief officer in charge, was lowered and sent alongside. The master stated that he was bound for Chefoo with a cargo of paper, and had been dismantled in the typhoon, and had lost five men overboard. He asked to be towed to Chefoo, so after some difficulty, a wire hawser was passed on board and the towing commenced. In a very short time the towline parted, and Captain Price determined to take the crew off the junk and set fire to her. A boat was lowered and the chief and second officers went on board the junk, and after pouring oil on the bales of paper she was set fire to. The two officers had hardly left the junk when she blew up with a tremendous explosion, followed by smaller ones that are described as being like the sound of independent firing by troops. Fortunately no one was seriously hurt, though the chief officer, Mr. Armistead, had both arms rather badly burnt. The explosion is thought to have been caused by some boxes

of cartridges, which in all probability were intended to be smuggled into Chefoo, where the junk was bound, though the junk's people denied that there were any explosives on board.

H.M.S. *Archer* left for a week's cruise on Wednesday to the Saddles and Chusan to give the vessel a blow through, and enable the men to have some swimming and boat exercise. On her way to Woosung she had the misfortune to break her windlass, and is now at anchor undergoing repairs.

The Nicaraguan ship *Charles R. Flint*, with kerosene oil from New York for Shanghai, which was previously reported abandoned at sea on fire, drifted ashore on the coast of Brazil and by latest report 5,000 cases of oil had been recovered from her in a badly damaged condition.

The *Rosetta* with the incoming English mail left Hongkong at 5 p.m. yesterday.

The *City of Peking* arrived at Yokohama from San Francisco on the 30th of July.

The R.M.S. *Empress of Japan* left Yokohama for Vancouver on Friday morning.

The R.M.S. *Empress of India* left Vancouver on Monday afternoon, and may be expected to reach Yokohama on Monday, the 17th instant.

The *Doric* arrived at Yokohama from San Francisco yesterday, one day ahead of schedule date.

The str. *Belgie* arrived at San Francisco on the 31st ultimo.

The str. *Elisabeth Rickmers* left Singapore on Friday for Hongkong and Shanghai.

The silk which left Shanghai on the 4th ult. per R.M.S. *Empress of India* arrived in New York on Saturday, the 1st instant.

TELEGRAPHIC communication with Japan, Europe, and America, via northern cables, has been restored.

"A" COMPANY Monthly Cup was shot for on Saturday morning at 200 and 500 yards, and was won by Private Daldy for the second time, with a total of 61 points.

We have received the *Asiatic Quarterly Review*, and the *Corean Repository* for July, and the July issue of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo's Far East*; also three issues, Nos. 15, 16, and 17, of that invaluable store-house of brightly-recorded facts in reference to China and things Chinese, *Mesny's Chinese Miscellany*, and we are glad to see that the dam has burst, and the interrupted flow has been resumed.

We have received the August issue of the *Messenger*.

We have received Nos. 18 and 19 of the second volume of *Mesny's Chinese Miscellany*. The former contains very interesting notes on the province of Chihli, and other subjects, while readers of the gallant General's autobiography will note with astonishment what cultivated and delightful people many of the Taiping rebels were. We have also received the *Chinese Recorder* for August.

In a book just published, "Torpedos and Torpedo-vessels," by Lieut. G. E. Armstrong, late R.N., we find an account, the first we have seen, of the method proposed by Howie of destroying the Japanese fleet:—Two Americans came to Weihaiwei with a scheme for destroying the Japanese fleet. Whatever may be thought as to the impossibility of their method, I personally have no doubt of the honesty of their convictions. They were to be paid only by results. One of them, Howie, was an ex-American naval officer. He had been employed on the Howell torpedo, and had fought in one of the South American wars. He impressed me as an eminently practical man, not as a hare-brained schemer. Yet their idea was of so large an order that faith in it was an impossibility. They proposed to be able to do the following: by means of a vessel fitted up something after the manner of a watering cart, the surface of the sea was to be covered with a film of some chemical which I gathered to be naphtha or something analogous. A shell containing some special chemical (the principal part of this invention) was then to be

fired, with the result that the whole field would detonate and destroy everything within its area. A gunboat was specially fitted according to their directions, but the chemicals were treacherously destroyed in Chefoo, where they were in junks, waiting for an opportunity to run to Weihaiwei.—*Daily Press*.

THE *Peking and Tientsin Times* of the 1st inst. mentions that some of the soldiers from the Yangtze who were waiting at Tangku for steamers to take them back to their homes, had cremated two or three of their comrades who happened to die there, and were taking the ashes back with them.—The death is mentioned of Mr. Peter Bell, Chief Engineer of the *Szechuen*, at Tangku on the 25th ult.; and of Father J. B. Fioritti of Peking at the General Hospital, Tientsin, on the 28th ult. He had been 33 years in China.—The following dialogue is said to have actually taken place on the Imperial Line:—

TRAVELLER ON CHINA RAILWAY.—How much for these two dogs?
RAILWAY OFFICIAL.—No got any rate for dog; one dog all same one sheep; one sheep all same two pig, can book four piece pig.

TRAVELLER.—But one dog is only young; he ought to go half fare.
RAILWAY OFFICIAL.—Can do! (To clerk) write three pig.

FROM an Auckland telegram in Australian papers we (*Daily Press*) learn that at Raratonga, on the afternoon of the 17th of June, between half-past two o'clock and half-past four, the sea rose and overflowed every five minutes, and then receded. The little harbours were nearly dry. It was on the 15th of June that the great tidal wave occurred at Japan. Possibly the phenomenon at Raratonga may have had some connection with it.

We have received Hongkong papers to the 30th ult.—There was only one case of plague on the 25th, but Miss McIntosh, one of the Sisters who has been in attendance at the Plague Hospital, was attacked by the disease.—Wirth's Circus is doing well in Hongkong.—The engineer of the German steamer *Martha* who fired at and wounded a coolie, was acquitted in the Hongkong Supreme Court on the 25th, notwithstanding an unfavourable summing-up from the Chief Justice. The charge of wounding a second coolie was accordingly withdrawn.—A Salvationist officer has been given seven years' rigorous imprisonment at Bombay for killing a native.—The *Sachsen* was detained one day by the typhoon in Hongkong.—There was only one case of plague on the 27th, and none on the 28th.—A Japanese Seismic Wave Relief Fund has been opened at the Mansion House, London.—Mr. W. G. Greig, the well-known Singapore broker, whose right foot was fractured in a carriage accident more than two years ago, has recently had it examined at home and amputation was found necessary.—When H.M.S. *Grafton* was one day out from Colombo, on her way out, a whale about 60 feet long was caught on her ram.—There was one case of plague on the 29th.

We have received Corea and Japan papers with dates from Seoul to the 23rd, Yokohama the 28th, and Kobe the 30th ult., and Nagasaki the 1st inst.—A Korean policeman having killed a man at Chemulpo on the 19th, a mob rose up, which was only quelled by the aid of the guard at the Japanese Consulate.—More details are given of the damage done by floods in Japan.—The *Japan Mail* laughs at the idea of Russia having anything like 100,000 men at Vladivostock.—The Canadian Pacific Company are sending the *Hupeh* as an extra steamer from Yokohama to Vancouver on the 15th instant.—The floods caused a landslip in the province of Hida, near Tokuyama Park, in which 10 or more persons were killed. A great deal of other damage has been done, and the repairs to the railway between Gifu and Ogaki will probably take a fortnight.—It is reported

that Counts Okuma and Matsugata are to join the Japanese Cabinet.—The ironclad *Chinyuen* captured from China, now the *Chinyen*, is once more ready for sea, having had several quick-firing guns added to her armament, and is to be the flagship of the Standing Squadron.—There must be something wrong with the Yokohama Post Office, for while the French steamer brought us on Thursday Yokohama papers to the 25th ult., the *Empress* brought us on Saturday Yokohama papers of the 22nd ult.—A number of the Formosa rebels who surrendered have been deported to China and let loose.—The land submerged in Gifu prefecture in the recent flood is officially estimated at 142,662 acres, and the pecuniary loss at about seven million dollars. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha has made a fine haul out of the suspension of traffic on the railways.—Tobacco having become a Government monopoly in Japan, storehouses are to be erected this year in 18 different districts.—There are more than 300 foreign visitors at Nikko.—During recent volcanic disturbances near Matsumoto a hill near Asama completely disappeared.—The railways in Corea are to be of the English standard gauge, 4 ft. 8½ inches.—Dr. Jaisohn and the other Koreans who brought an action against a "memorialist" for libel, have been awarded \$1,000 each and costs.—The "memorialist" has also been tried in the Criminal Court, and sentenced to 100 blows and 3 years' imprisonment with hard labour.—The Tokaido railway is again in working order.—The new treaty between France and Japan is ready for signature.—The *Nagasaki Shipping List* says: Yokohama appears to be suffering in the matter of harbour moorings in a somewhat similar manner to this port. The *Herald* says that the mooring arrangements are "practically primeval in their antediluvian inadequacy." Here they are utterly antediluvian in their prehistoric inutility. Which amounts to much the same thing and sounds about as well.

A TOKIO telegram of the 24th of June in the Japanese vernacular papers, says:—

The new Treaty of Commerce with China has to be ratified and exchanged in Peking within three months from the day on which it was signed. The principal points of the new Treaty are:—

(1) That Japanese are allowed to travel freely in the interior of China for commercial purposes.

(2) The Japanese Consuls in China retain jurisdiction over Japanese subjects in China in accordance with the extra-territorial system.

(3) Japanese subjects in China are also at liberty to purchase and lease land and houses within certain limits of the open ports of China.

(4) Japanese subjects are at liberty to carry on manufacturing business freely at the open ports of China, the taxation on such business to be governed entirely by the Shimonoseki Treaty as no provision whatever is made in the new Treaty.

(5) The customs duty payable by Japanese is regulated by the most favoured nation clause. The transit duty on imported goods is fixed at one half the import duty. When this duty is imposed, no other inland tax shall be demanded. On goods free of import duty only 2½ per cent *ad valorem* shall be paid for inland duty.

(6) The new Treaty will remain in force for ten years after the exchange of the ratifications.

Similar privileges to those above mentioned are in every case denied to Chinese subjects in Japan.

THE *Japan Mail* has the following under the heading "Harbours":—

The *Tokyo Shimbun* declares that Obama, Tsuruga, Nanao, Fushiki, Naoyetsu, and Niigata in the Hokuriku districts, are ports for loading and unloading cargoes. But of these, the last three, though generally regarded as such, cannot properly

be called harbours. Indeed, along the whole coast of Hokurikudo there is no good anchorage, Ebisu, in Sado Island, being the only one in the vicinity. It is by nature a very good harbour, open toward the south and entirely sheltered from the north wind that so greatly disturbs the Sea of Japan, especially in winter. It is usual with steamers visiting Niigata, Naoyetsu, and Fushiki to hasten to Ebisu for shelter whenever they are overtaken by storms, for, between October and April, large steamers often find it impossible to discharge or take in cargoes at those places. Tsuruga is somewhat better off, but it has one serious defect, namely, being directly exposed to the north wind. Obama is a Tsuruga in miniature. The *Tokyo Shinbun* considers Nanao to be the best harbour along the coast of Hokurikudo. Strange to say, it omits to explain why this particular harbour is so much better than the others.

A few details about Funakoshi Harbour, Chikujen, Kiushiu, are given in the *Jiji*. The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha recently despatched thither Capt. Arai and a foreign employé of the firm to investigate the geography of the harbour and to ascertain whether it affords a safe anchorage to steamers of large size. The report submitted by them speaks in favourable terms of Funakoshi. It says that the basin is deep, and affords safe anchorage for more than 10 vessels of 1,000 tons' displacement or so, and that six or seven vessels of under 5,000 tons' displacement, even at low-tide, can lie there. When a pier and other necessary accessories have been constructed, Funakoshi will become one of the best harbours along the west coast of Kiushiu. It is far better than Kuchinotsu, Misuni, and Moji, and is, moreover, nearer by more than 60 miles to China. The Government is inspecting the various harbours along the north-western coast of Kiushiu to discover which is the best as a special port of export, and it is generally believed that the choice will fall on Funakoshi.

The following notes are from the *Japan Daily Herald*:—

An accident, which was apparently caused by gross carelessness, which resulted in considerable loss of life and severe injuries to others, is reported from Kiushiu. A railway line is now in course of construction between Takeo and Arita, and on the 19th instant a service train consisting of seven trucks was started down a steep incline, and by some blunder or other attained a speed more than three times the ordinary rate, with the result that when about two miles from Takeomachi the first truck left the track and overturned, the other six being piled up on top of it. A number of workmen were on the cars, and of these five were killed on the spot, and a dozen others received more or less serious injuries, several having limbs or ribs broken.

An accident which was unfortunately attended with the loss of several lives is reported from Uraga, Kanagawa prefecture. On the 23rd instant at 8.30 a.m. a cave-in occurred in a tunnel on the military railway line there, and six men and four women who were working in the tunnel were buried under the fallen earth. As soon as possible, operations were started to disinter the unfortunates, but it was not till 7 p.m. that two of these, one man and one woman, were extricated, still alive. Work was continued throughout that night, but none of the others had been rescued up to last reports, and it is scarcely likely any of them could have survived till morning. Great difficulty was experienced in excavating, as the soil is sandy and continually fell in.

The *Kokumin-no-Tomo's* English edition, the *Far East*, has the following cautious note on the rising in Formosa:—

An insurrection has again broken out in Central Formosa. A band of rioters numbering several thousands captured a town called Yuculin on 29th June,—some of

our officers and soldiers having been killed or wounded. Forces were subsequently dispatched from the adjacent stations to the seat of disturbance. Moreover, as soon as the news reached Taipeh, the Headquarters of the First Brigade embarked for the same place. The rebels are nothing but violent mobs of the lowest classes and have no military organisation. They will certainly be subdued without difficulty, but the reason which made them break out ought to be carefully investigated. Is this insurrection to be attributed to too severe regulations or to careless administration? We cannot say decidedly which is the case without fuller information from the South. But we may say that there is as much harm in a loose administration as in severe regulations.

In the match between the representative 'Varsity Elevens which was concluded at Lord's on Saturday, 4th instant, Oxford won. Cambridge put together 319 in their first innings and 212 in their second. Oxford's total for their first venture was 202, while for six wickets down they put on 330 runs, and won the match by four wickets. To this result they were largely helped by G. O. Smith whose contribution in the second innings was 132. Smith, an old Charterhouse boy, played in the same fixture last year when Oxford won by 134 runs, the winners' first innings, curiously enough, producing just the same number of runs—202. Smith stood second in last year's batting averages with 41.30.—*Times of Ceylon*.

MR. CHAS. HEIDSIECK writes to the *Times* from Rheims the following notes on the champagne vintages:—"Vintage, 1889.—These wines, which commanded prices at the vintage not known before, have kept their promise as to the development of the quality, and, now that the 1884 are scarce, are certainly the wines to drink. These wines possess delicacy and body, and therefore suit the English market. The 1889 vintage, being good, was principally reserved for England; the vintages of 1890 and 1891 were of a lighter style, and have been disposed of in other countries. Vintage, 1892.—The characteristic of this vintage is that, with the exception of 1888, which produced a light and acid wine, it has been the smallest we have had in the champagne district since 1880. Accordingly the prices paid for the grapes were very high, as in the latter vintage, and the result has been that the fine wines and *cuvées* of 1892 are only found in limited quantities. The 1892 are showing bouquet, delicacy, and body, and the development of the wines show they have fully answered the expectations which were entertained from the first as to their quality. Vintage 1893.—After the scarceness of good wines in previous years, this vintage came as a relief to the champagne trade, as both regards quantity and quality, being nearly four times larger than that of 1892. The grapes were gathered during a hot and favourable temperature, and, owing to the fine weather, the mildew was quite absent from the vineyards. For these reasons 1893 is an excellent vintage, and the good *cuvées* of this year are certain to improve with age. As to body and character the vintage comes near to those of 1874 and 1865, and we may say with confidence that if the 1893 vintage keeps its promise it will give much satisfaction to the consumer and the trade. If some *cuvées* are showing deficiencies, the reason is that the grapes have suffered from the heat before being pressed; but the *cuvées* are many that highly maintain the reputation of the year. Vintage 1894.—The bulk of the vintage amounted to about half of that of 1893, and its quality has been found indifferent and irregular; not good enough for the English market. Vintage 1895.—The quantity of this year's vintage is still smaller than that in 1894. After a wet and cold summer an exceptional heat set in at the end of August and September,

which not only cured most of the vineyards of the mildew, but gave to the grapes especially in some of the best *cuvées*, a ripeness which is only found in good years. One must, however, be reticent in forming any opinion of the quality of this year's vintage, the wines being too young to form any authentic opinion.

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* sends the following note to that paper:—

"Nautical Instructions," a year-book issued by the French Admiralty, contains a note of warning regarding the dangers that beset Ushant. After the loss of the *Drummond Castle* it reads like a prophecy. This paragraph is as follows:—"Warning. It is necessary to insist on the danger incurred by vessels that pass Ushant, coming from the Spanish coast, and neglect to take soundings. Numbers of vessels are yearly lost in time of mist either on the rocks west of Molène or south-east of Ushant. This is because captains shape their course without taking into account the state of the tide at the expected time of passing near Ushant. If the Race of Seine be passed shortly before or after low tide at Brest and a course be shaped two or three miles west of Ushant, the ship in this case is carried by a current of five to seven knots into the passage of Fromveur, and is lost without any on board having suspected the danger." Referring to the table of tides for 1896, 12.42 a.m. is given as the time of low water at Brest on the 17th of June. The loss of the *Drummond Castle* took place as predicted to the letter by the French Admiralty. It will be noticed that the danger is for vessels entering, and not leaving the Channel.

The *Home News* of the 19th ult. says:—

By a curious freak of fortune Li Hung-chang's visit to Berlin occurs simultaneously with the return to that capital of Marshal Yamagata. The purpose of the Chinese statesman is to discover ways and means of enabling China to surmount the embarrassments to which she is now subject as the result of the victories of Japan. Neither for Li Hung-chang nor for his hosts can it have been wholly pleasant to have interchanged rather exaggerated courtesies under the eyes of the man who was instrumental in bringing about the Chinese disasters. There is a certain stroke of irony in the extreme cordiality with which the representative of the beaten nation has been received, and the chastened politeness meted out to the representative of the victors. Li Hung-chang on Sunday last effusively thanked the Emperor for the services of officers from whose guidance, he said, great advantages had accrued to the Chinese army; much more appropriately would such thanks have come from Marshal Yamagata. Again, Li Hung-chang, after witnessing a military review, at Frankfort-on-the-Oder, exclaimed that had China possessed ten such battalions she would have crushed Japan at one blow. If Marshal Yamagata hears these things they must occasion him some amusement. Li Hung-chang's mission is understood to be mainly commercial and financial, and Germany is not likely to miss the opportunity which now offers for improving her business relations with the Celestial Empire.

In the House of Commons on the 23rd of June:—

Mr. Moon said—I beg to ask the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether his attention has been called to the statement that his Excellency Li Hung-chang admitted that a Russian railway would be built through Manchuria; and whether the Foreign Office has now any information as to when this railway will be commenced, what will be its course, and upon what terms, as between the Russian and Chinese Governments, it will be constructed, worked, and controlled.

Mr. Curzon.—We have no information of the alleged statement of Li Hung-chang other than what has appeared in the newspapers; nor, therefore, can I say

anything as to the terms on which such a railway would be constructed or the course it would follow.

Mr. Moon asked if the right hon. gentleman would make enquiries as to the course it will take.

Mr. Moon—I beg to ask the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he has received any information from Peking as to the alleged irregular acquisition of land at Chefoo by Russians; and whether substantial barracks for Russian troops have been built at Chefoo, on the eastern side of the Peninsula.

Mr. Curzon—The only incident at Chefoo of which we have information is that which I described in an answer to the hon. member on the 14th of May. We have hopes that a satisfactory settlement may be arrived at. We have not heard of any Russian barracks at Chefoo.

Mr. Moon asked if the right hon. gentleman would enquire into the last allegation. He had authority for it.

Mr. Curzon—No, Sir. I am afraid we cannot add to the necessary labours of the Department by enquiring into every form of idle rumour. (Hear, hear.)

The Kilburn Sisterhood has many friends in China, and they will be interested in the following extract from "Church Notes" in the *Globe* :—

It is to be hoped that the ladies composing the Kilburn Sisterhood will at length see the absolute necessity of placing themselves unreservedly in the hands of some one in whose judgment the public has entire confidence. The investigations of which the results have been published by the Charity Organisation Society and *Truth*, if they involve no imputation on the motives of the Sisters, display such a lamentable want of discretion that something must really be done if a good work is not to be entirely ruined. This is the opinion expressed in those Church newspapers which have done their best to defend the Kilburn ladies and sisterhoods in general from unworthy attacks. It is very seldom indeed that the *Guardian* allows itself to write so strongly as it does this week on Mr. Labouchere's report. If the charges are true, it says, "money sent to Kilburn had very much better be thrown into the nearest pond."

The sum affected by the doubt is something like £35,000 a year. The *Guardian* proceeds:—"Those cut of whose pockets it comes may, of course, be wholly indifferent to the use to which it is put. In that case they will not be made uneasy by the charges brought by *Truth*, and by the Charity Organisation Society. But if they have even the slightest desire that their money should do good to others they will decline to send any more until the Superior has submitted the whole history and management of the sisterhood and the works carried on in connection with it to the test of an impartial investigation by the ecclesiastical authorities to whom she professes—at least, we suppose so—to owe religious obedience. There is no reason to doubt that the Bishop of London would institute such an investigation if he were asked, though he might now demand some adequate assurance that those to whom he entrusts it shall not be prosecuted for libel if the Superior is not satisfied with their conclusions." A distinct threat of of the kind was sent to the office of *Truth* by a solicitor acting for the Sisterhood.

The *Globe* says:—It is satisfactory to learn that whatever may be the upshot of the Presidential campaign in America it has, even in its initial stages, had the result of enriching the common stock of memorable phrases. Mr. "Sam" Fessenden, of Connecticut, is the author of one. For when Mr. Manley, of Maine, exhibited what to Mr. Fessenden seemed a premature disposition to upheave the Reed sponge, Mr. Fessenden "voiced" the feeling of those States in the impassioned expostulation, "Joe, the Almighty God hates a quitter." But the other phrase is far more striking, and by it a hitherto com-

paratively obscure and coloured committeeman from Texas has leaped at a bound into immortal fame. "I am for sound money if I am treated right" is the deathless utterance of Mr. Cuney. This, as the *New York Times* correctly observes, has exactly the quality of the luminous and immortal dictum of Flannagan, of Flannagan's Mills. For it was Flannagan who once demanded of his associates in National Convention assembled, "What are we here for but the offices?" By the utterance of these eight simple words Flannagan set up in the Convention a Pharos of something like a million candle power, which illuminated the motives, not only of himself, but of the whole assemblage. The utterance of Mr. Cuney is hardly less illuminative. For after his remark it was obviously impossible for the Republican Convention to be carried on upon that basis of solemn hypocrisy on which it was otherwise in danger of being conducted. If Cuney's observation has not exactly the wit or wisdom of a proverb, it is, at any rate, marked by that mixture of cynicism and *naïveté* which is so characteristic of the sayings struck out of the heat of American political contests.

UNDER the heading "British Trade and Foreign Competition" the *Economist* says:—

There has lately been so much croaking about the severity of foreign competition in countries which formerly almost exclusively provided our traders with markets, and so much appealing to the Government for the assistance which it has no power to render effectively, that it is quite refreshing to come across a view of the question enunciated with such a true ring of statesmanship and common sense as Lord Salisbury employed in reply the other day to the deputation from the Associated Chambers of Commerce, which asked the support of the Government for making trade routes to China. Lord Salisbury referred to the suggestion, in the matter of making railways, that if we had a contest with France she would take all the advantage out of our hands; and said that if that were the view of any number of English capitalists, he could only regard it as a singularly pusillanimous view, considering what teaching we have had from the past as to the superiority of English enterprise over that of the enterprise of every other nation of the world, whenever it has free course. The Premier also characterised as unworthy of our history and power the fears entertained in some quarters with regard to the competition of Russia in the North. If, said Lord Salisbury, "England, with all her traditions, with all her commercial machinery, with all her tremendous capital, with all her accumulated knowledge—if she cannot compete with Russia in the race for a market, we are, indeed, a degraded generation compared with what our fathers were." It is much to be desired that the tone of these remarks may induce a more reasonable attitude on the part of those who seem to imagine that it is the duty of the Government to act as a buffer between them and their foreign competitors, and to see that markets are kept open for us. With the advance of civilisation, with improved methods of production, and more rapid means of communication, it is inevitable that the race for trade and for wealth should steadily increase, and it would be utterly foolish to expect any Government to attempt to check the sources of supply. All that can be reasonably asked is that our traders shall have a field for their energies and their enterprise, and upon that score any ground of complaint is not obvious. But, after all, is not the seriousness of this foreign competition being greatly exaggerated by some of the people who seek to enlighten public opinion? Take for example the work which has been published this week under the title of *Made in Germany*. The author seeks to show that Germany has given us "a handsome beating" in many of the markets which were once our

own special preserves. He states, for example, that the value of the German exports to the United States rose from 175,721,000 marks in 1884 to 288,669,000 marks in 1894, and that the exports to Japan rose from 5,000,000 marks in 1888 to 26,500,000 marks in 1895; but he seems to be unaware of the fact that until 1889 the Hanse Towns were not included in the Zollverein, and that up to that year very large amounts of German goods were nominally sent to the Hanse Towns, but were really shipped thence to various destinations. In 1888 the value of the German so-called exports to the Hanse Towns was placed at 790,839,000 marks; in 1893 they were valued at 31,788,000 marks. The author's conclusions are, therefore, entirely vitiated by his ignoring an elementary factor in the comparisons. In 1889 the German exports to the United States were valued at 385,036,000 marks, whereas in 1893 they were valued at 354,310,000 marks; while in the same period the exports to Japan were almost stationary, 18,529,000 marks in 1889 and 18,578,000 marks in 1893. There is not much evidence in these figures of the "handsome beating" of our trade that is referred to as an established fact.

THE *N. Y. Nation* says:—Major McKinley made another speech on Monday, which is notable as containing his first allusion, since his nomination, to the currency issue of the campaign. After his usual remarks about the boundless prosperity which a high tariff always brings, he said: "And, my countrymen, there is another thing the people are determined upon, and that is that a full day's work must be paid in a full dollar." What is a "full dollar"? The silver men say a sixteen-to-one silver dollar is "full," and that a gold dollar is more than full. The Greenbackers always claimed that a greenback was a "full dollar." Suppose the St. Louis platform, instead of mentioning the gold standard, had compromised on the declaration: "Resolved, That we are in favour of a full dollar for a full day's work," what would have been the effect upon the country? Would the business interests have accepted that as a satisfactory assurance that, with McKinley as President, there would be no danger of the country's passing to the silver standard? There are intimations that Hanna has decided to have Major McKinley make no more speeches at present, and this is a wise precaution, for if the strongest sound-money utterance that he can make after nearly a week of cogitation is that he is in favour of a "full dollar," the sooner he stops talking, the better.

THE *N. Y. Maritime Register* says:—This country has built up its manufacturing plants to a point where foreign markets have become a necessity to the future prosperity and maintenance of this branch of industry. It is expected that all the surplus of manufactures will be sold abroad and it is also taken as a necessarily corollary that these goods will be paid for in money, or its equivalent, that has but one value for all, and that of course is gold. But a large number of people here have become imbued with the idea that when they pay their debts they can do so in money which has a most fluctuating value and is never anywhere near the value of gold, and that of course is silver. These people do not generally admit the two statements. They ignore the first and talk only of the worth of silver. When asked to consider the real situation in a way that will at least have the appearance of sense, they break out into a lot of balderdash, and try to make others believe, what they apparently have taught themselves to believe, that the United States is not of this world, but is a Heaven-ordained country that can set all ordinary rules of trade and living at defiance. They should really be placed in the class with the Boston merchant who in his talk soared toward the infinite and dived for the unfathomable, but never paid cash.

Miscellaneous Articles.

THE BUND FORESHORE.

3rd Aug.

WE must not attach too much importance to the attempt of energetic Chinese officialdom to "jump a claim" on the Bund foreshore. Such attempts have ever been a recurring feature in the records of the Settlements. The history of the Public Garden and of the Soochow Creek foreshore, the Ince case and Browett incident, the records of the Bubbling Well, Woosung, and Sinza Roads, all tend to show clearly that few, if any, Chinese officials have ever realised the nature and rights of the foreign settlements or the meaning of the Land Regulations; they cannot realise the existence of any form of honest local government, and only recognising in the Municipal Council a body of merchants engaged in plundering for their own ends, they see no reason why they, the local officials, should not share in the plunder. Their attempts in the past, however, have usually been tentative and half-hearted, requiring only a little firmness for their defeat. That the present case, (though possibly representing more money and more scientific tactics than have hitherto been brought to bear) will prove a serious one, we do not believe; for on the face of it, it has no *locus standi* whenever. But the booty apparently in sight is tempting enough to make any native official's mouth water.

The present therefore appears to be a fitting moment to recall briefly so much of the history of the Bund foreshore as bears on the case. That history, like most public matters in Shanghai, has suffered from lack of continuity and the absence of a clearly-defined policy, and the final definition of foreshore rights under all their aspects has always been postponed on the "let sleeping dogs lie" principle. It is probably this fact that has given rise to the present laudable scheme; but its promoters would do well to remember that the difficulty of defining the Bund's status has hitherto been entirely with regard to the rights of the original lot holders *vis-à-vis* the public (or the Council) and concerning their respective rights. The position of the Chinese authorities in the matter presents no such difficulties.

Into the history of all the slow steps by which the refuse-strewn foreshore of former days became the lawn promenade of the present, we have not space to go. All we can do is to recall a few points which bear clearly on the case in hand. And first of all we would refer our readers to the remarks addressed by Consul Winchester to the Landrenters' Meeting of March, 1866, in which he clearly states that the surrender of the lots by the original holders "for the public use" means a right of way *along the river-bank* for ever. The Bund and its foreshore were made by the public, and improved at the public expense and

the then Taotai himself contributed Tls. 20,000 towards the work *as a gift to the Community*.

This aspect of the case was, however, soon forgotten. Officials and Councils changed, and in 1871 and 1873 we find this very question of the ownership of the foreshore raised by the Taotai who advanced certain pretensions to it, only to abandon them later on. Again in 1877 we find Liu Taotai asking that the Municipal Council be "enjoined from taking unauthorised possession of a river's bank" and we cannot do better than to quote from the very able despatch of U.S. Consul Bradford, dated the 21st of June, 1877, in reply:—

"The southern or river boundary of the land is the 'Whampoo river,' and the 'mouth of the Soochow Creek,' which, as I understand the law of your honourable country in this point, clearly permits the foreshore to attach to the land in the rear, for is it not an old established rule that land on a river's bank follows the course of the stream in its shiftings, and only the landholder has the benefit of any accretion, he however, paying to the Government the tax thereon. In the case in point, it is possible that the accretion has not been added to the area called for in the title deed, but that may easily be done, and the additional area ascertained for purpose of taxation.

"The question of ownership which you raise, has been brought up on several occasions by one or more of your honourable predecessors, and several precedents are on record in this office and in your *yamen*, and I was hopeful that the principle was clearly established thereby. I will cite one or more. In 1871, the point came up in respect of title deeds Nos. 268 and 270, and in 1873 in the case of title deed No. 246. The Taotai at that time proposed in his view of the case to fix a price *per mow* for the accretions, but so untenable a position was upon examination abandoned by him, he finding that under the law his authority was to ascertain the area of such accretion for purpose of taxation. In one case, having the report of his deputy, he not only added the area of accretion to the measurement on the old deed, but went so far as to embrace it in the consideration expressed for the last purchase. If you will consult the records of about April, 1873, you will find the report of the deputies in the instance referred to, as communicated to this office by the Taotai. In this connection I desire to remark that I consider the title deeds for land held by foreigners are simply leases or grants from the Imperial Government, and I know of no clause in them whereby any rights are reserved or abridged, which would be enjoyed by a Chinese holder, who I understand enjoys the right to the alluvial deposit of the river. This deposit is esteemed both in your honourable country, and in mine, to be a natural result, consequent upon the peculiar situation of the land so fronting the stream. The principle seems to

obtain near the junk anchorage at Tunkah-doo, where I am informed taxes are actually paid by the owners of the front lots, upon land for several tens of feet under water. They do this as willingly as the foreign renter, who asks that an accretion be surveyed and added to his title deed.

"Moreover, in a despatch from the Taotai about the 12th September, 1873, he returned, after examination, to the Consular body, a plan of the proposed bund line and bunding, prepared for the mouth of the Soochow creek. He made one or two suggestions as to the width of the channel. The plan so modified was submitted to the Municipal Council, and in October, 1873, Mr. Seward informed the Taotai that the Council had accepted his amended plan. The matter has therefore been fixed long since, and the records seem complete. The filling in of which you speak is clearly within the lines defined and accepted by the Taotai, the Consuls, and the Municipal Council. Why should it then become necessary or expedient to pronounce against a settled scheme made for the public good, or to agitate a subject in the discussion of which from your premises, no good result is likely to be obtained? When such matters are brought to your notice by those who are not fully informed, if you will ask information it will always be gladly given you from reliable quarters, and thus much time would be saved and useless speculative theories avoided, and the public interest will not be harmed.

"I trust that in view of these and other premises which might be cited; the established precedents, and your knowledge of the law, you will agree with me that to insist upon the right to control the foreshore of the lot in question would be against precedent, which is supported by accepted plans, and would be contrary to law and custom."

Consul Bradford's argument that the foreign landrenter's rights *vis-à-vis* the Chinese government are the same as those enjoyed by a Chinese holder is an extremely strong and valid one; and it must be borne in mind that the Eastern boundary as given on the Bund lot title-deed is 淤灘 *p'ut'an*, the "river beach, or mud flat." As was pointed out by Dr. Yates (who agreed with Mr. Bradford) at a meeting of ratepayers in May, 1869, the meaning of such a boundary in Chinese title-deeds is "*to low water mark*," and he says, "so that if the river filled up to Pootung, the land would still belong to the Bund lot-holders. . . . All the owner of the Bund lot has to do to secure his title is to register the increase and pay the land tax." Now the foreshore having been surrendered for public use, the question whether the municipality is bound to pay government land tax thereon is an open and a complicated one, which has before now been referred (uselessly) to Peking. It is, however, unimportant.

The procedure at present in force precludes the municipality from paying such taxes on any land for which it does not hold title deeds, and the foreshore title deeds are in the hands of the Bund lot-holders. If, however, it should be decided by good authority that the tax is properly payable, there is nothing to prevent either the Council or the Bund lot-renters from paying such amounts as may be in arrear. This was the course taken when the Council for 1885-6 was instructed by the ratepayers to pay the Chinese government tax on municipal roads; and arrears due for 14 years were then paid. But there is no mention in the Land Regulations of any penalty attaching to non-payment of this tax, beyond the recovery of the actual amount (under article VIII.) in a summary manner.

We now come to the question of accretions—the most important point. The history of the Bund foreshore tends to show that unfortunately litigation on this point has not been confined—as it should have been—to the laws governing ownership of land in China; and in such cases as *Regina v. Reynolds*, and the *Harbour Master v. Hall & Holtz*, decisions based on the laws of foreign countries have only served to complicate the situation and to provide occasion for that pettifogging policy which the Chinese love. In the former case, it was laid down by the Court that “if a certain piece of land were given in the title deeds as being of so many *mow* between certain limits, of which low water were one, and if low water subsequently receded, it was of no advantage to the renter;” a principle entirely contrary to Chinese law, which gives the renter a claim on all accretions, on payment of a nominal sum (varying between 12 and 32 taels) for registering the same. The expression of this unfortunate opinion has done a great deal of harm; for the Chinese and their hungry advisers have triumphantly brought it up against successive Consuls and Councils ever since, quite oblivious of the fact that, though it may be sound English law, it has nothing whatsoever to do with land rented under Chinese title deeds, from the Emperor of China. Mr. Bradford, in the despatch already quoted, refused rightly enough to admit the case of Mr. Reynolds as an argument.

Similarly the Supreme Court's utterance in the case of *Harbour Master v. Hall & Holtz* was untimely and unnecessary, for though it only stated the self-evident fact that “land between high and low water belongs to the Emperor of China,” it stated it in such a way as to let the native authorities believe they could with impunity deal as they liked with such land. Now, all foreign-rented land in the settlements of Shanghai belongs to, and is leased from, the Emperor—in token of which fact the Government tax is paid—but the conditions of tenure are clearly fixed by usage, by title deeds, and, last

but not least by the Land Regulations. Art. VI of those Regulations, (the study of which should be made compulsory on all Taotais) distinctly states that “land heretofore surrendered by the various foreign renters to public use, such as roads and the beach grounds of rivers within the aforesaid limits, shall remain henceforth dedicated to the same uses.” This surely is plain enough, and allows no room for quibbling. It is the beach of the river that is reserved for public use, and not any other spot—if the river recedes the beach goes with it—and the Land Regulations, though often questioned, have always proved to have sufficient force behind them to ensure their general observance.

In this connection it may be well to note the strong opinion of Mr. Seward regarding their validity as expressed in 1875 (*vide Council v. Fogg*), and to remember that Sir E. Horby (in *Council v. Wills*) held them to be of equal authority with the charter of Hongkong.

The recent Chefoo case, to which the present scheme has been compared, would have a certain bearing upon it if (1) Shanghai had no Land Regulations, and (2) if the Shanghai Bund foreshore had not long ago been surrendered by the original renters for public use in perpetuity. These two conditions render the cases entirely dissimilar, and they preclude any possibility of interference with the existing *status quo* in Shanghai.

Even were the question one of private ownership by a land-renter, the fact of non-registration of any accretion could not lead to eventual forfeiture of the right to register such accretion, unless the greatest indifference were displayed by the Consul concerned. Such forfeiture would be against the principles of Chinese land-law, though that law is elastic enough to work in all sorts of ways. We know that of late years certain native officials, taking advantage of Consular apathy in such matters, have been refusing to *shenko* (or register) foreshore accretions at Woosung and other places. Such action cannot be sustained either by law or custom; and the sooner such methods of filling official coffers are restrained, the better. But the Bund foreshore does not stand on the same footing as land rented by a private individual. It has, under clear title deeds, a right of way along the river-bank, a right which has been surrendered for the public use for ever, and which, under the Land Regulations can never be diverted from that use. That any native official should dream, even in his most impecunious moments, of tampering with the Settlement's clearly established rights in this matter, is only another proof of the lengths to which they will go when actuated by greed, ignorance, and the probable absence of reprisals. But we believe the whole scheme to be due to the over-zealous promptings of some energetic but ignorant “adviser,” and we can only re-echo the sound advice of Consul

Bradford to Liu Taotai concerning the futility of taking “advice from those who are not fully informed,” and the avoidance of “speculative theories” in general.

In conclusion, there can be no question of the Council paying the Taotai, or anyone else, for any accretions to the public foreshore. The Land Tax, if not paid, may be payable on application received from the proper quarters: but the necessity for registering (*shenko*) foreshore accretions is not, and cannot, be the same in the case of public lands as in the case of private individuals. No Taotai can go beyond Art. VI of the Land Regulations.

HONGKONG IN 1895.

5th Aug.

SIR William Robinson, Governor of Hongkong, has courteously sent us a copy of his despatch to the Colonial Secretary accompanying the Hongkong Blue Book for 1895. It bears date the 30th of July last. The first reference is to the fortunate comparative immunity from plague enjoyed by the colony last year. There were only 44 sporadic cases during the year, but of these cases all but one ended fatally. Three of these cases were Portuguese and the remainder Chinese. Sir William remarks that it is impossible to say how far the absence of the disease in epidemic form was due to climatic conditions and how far to the carrying out of the precautions which he mentions. The experience of this year seems to show that it was the climatic conditions, which are, we must conclude, not yet understood by the medical and sanitary authorities. If the plague attacks Hongkong another year, we presume an adequate trial will be made of Dr. Yersin's serum. So far the learned doctor has not, as we know by his own statements at Amoy, succeeded in getting enough undoubted cases of the disease to make it certain that his serum is the remedy which all hope it will prove to be.

Finances are next dealt with. The revenue collected during 1895 amounted to \$2,486,229, an increase of nearly \$200,000 over that of 1894, which was the largest on record. The expenditure was \$2,972,373, or some \$900,000 over that in 1894. But of this increase, \$821,000 was expended in carrying out the resumption of the plague area, Tai-pingshan, an expenditure which will be recouped when that area has been swept and garnished and sold at public auction. Deducting that sum from the expenditure, the accounts show a surplus for the year of no less than \$334,856. “All things considered, the financial position is one of which the colony has no reason to complain.”

Then comes a long account of the Coolie Strike at Hongkong in the spring of last year. It originated in the desire of the Sanitary Board to prevent overcrowding; and with this object bye-laws were made in 1890, providing

for the registration of common lodging-houses. These laws were approved by the Legislative Council in 1891, but not put in force at the time. The plague of 1894, however, directed attention to them, and it was decided to enforce them on the 1st of January, 1895. The coolies took it into their heads that the proposed registration was preliminary to the imposition of a poll-tax, and three months were uselessly spent in endeavouring to disabuse their minds of this idea. At last, summons were issued against the recalcitrant lodging-house keepers, but it was found that they had decamped from the colony. The actual tenant or occupier of the house, or, where there was no such person, the immediate landlord, was then made liable for the registration, and this was followed by a general strike of coolies on the 24th of March, 1895. Grave inconvenience and loss to the shipping and other interests in the colony resulted, for by the 27th of March, "all the coolies who handle cargo on ship and on shore and who work coal, together with nearly all the hands at the Quarry Bay, East Point, and Lee Yuen Sugar Refineries, making a total of at least 20,000, were on strike." On the 28th of March a public meeting of the community was held, at which it was determined to support the Government. There were signs that the strike was weakening, but unfortunately on the 29th of March the Committee appointed at the public meeting held a conference with a number of the Chinese headmen, and undertook to ask the Government to modify the obnoxious bye-laws. The Government, however, was firm, and, as Sir William says, to give way "would have been a complete victory for the rebellious coolies, the consequences of which could not have failed to prove disastrous to the colony for many years to come from whatever point of view the circumstances are regarded: disastrous to health and sanitation, for the modifications proposed would have been a decided obstacle to the smooth working of the very necessary bye-laws; disastrous to trade and commerce, for success in this strike would inevitably have meant a succession of strikes in future years; and, far worse than all, disastrous to the future peace and good order of the colony." In the end firmness prevailed, as it always will with Chinese, and the strike ended on the 4th of April. Sir William Robinson is to be heartily congratulated on sticking to his guns when the merchants, for whom he was fighting, began to waver; and the value of his firmness is recognised in Hongkong now.

There is nothing of importance to note in the remarks on the Crime of the year. The more pleasant subject of Shipping comes next, and it is noted that the total entries and clearances amounted to 15,632,113 tons, against 14,248,670 in 1894, the plague year,

and 14,349,122 in 1893. Some interesting comparisons follow with London, Liverpool, Cardiff, and Newcastle, before none of which ports has Hongkong any reason to hang her head. An estimate is made of the total amount of cargo imported into Hongkong, and it is given as 2,760,954 tons against 2,625,610 tons in 1894. The population of the colony in 1895 is estimated at, British and Foreign 10,828, Chinese 237,670. After mentioning the completion of the new Central Market, and the extension to the Gaol, Sir William draws attention to the necessity for the provision of a larger water supply, and he explains the steps that are being taken to enlarge the reservoirs. There are some short notes on the Legislation of the year, which included nothing sensational, and the Governor concludes a very well-written review by saying:—

"This will probably be one of the last Blue Book reports which I shall have the honour to address to you from Hongkong, and in concluding it I would point out that the expectations I found and gave expression to some four and a-half years ago, and which were then adversely criticised and even treated in some quarters with derision, have been or are in course of being fulfilled. 1894 and 1895 have been exceedingly prosperous years, notwithstanding serious impediments, and I hope and have every reason to believe that this colony, looking to its remarkable vitality, will in the future, continue to advance in wealth and prosperity." And when Sir William reaches the higher post to which he may well look forward, he will still, we hope, look back with pleasure to his official life in Hongkong, and he will be able to feel, as he contemplates the colony's advance in wealth and prosperity, that a fair proportion of it is due to his own intelligent administration.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO NORDAU.

6th Aug.

In that charming story by Hans Christian Andersen called *The Snow Queen*, we are told how the devil once made a wonderful mirror possessing the power of making everything good and beautiful that was reflected in it shrink to almost nothing, whilst all that was worthless and bad became still larger and worse. The most beautiful landscapes looked like boiled spinach, and the best people were rendered positively repulsive, or else apparently stood on their heads, or had no bodies. Even the lovely thoughts passing through a few men's minds were transformed into fiendish grins on the surface of the horrible looking-glass, and the devil was so delighted with his invention that he ordered some wicked little goblins to fly with it up to heaven so that the angels themselves might be distorted in it. On the way upwards, however, the careless goblins dropped their treasure, and it was broken into millions of

pieces, some of which were no larger than a grain of sand. And since then it has caused incalculable unhappiness, for whenever the fragments get into anyone's eyes, they distort the vision so utterly that their victim can only see the bad side of a thing or a person. And this we are told with charming frankness, amuses the devil so much that he roars with pleasure at the evil wrought by his injurious toy.

We are almost forced to believe in the truth of this legend when we read the works of Dr. Nordau. As we put them down, we are conscious of having been brought into close contact with a mind of singular vigour. The author is undeniably a man of varied interests and wide knowledge, and we are compelled to admire the essentially truthful nature that wages perpetual war against Shams and Lies. But although we are carried away whilst reading the books by the fascination of their author's style, we draw a long breath at their close, and feel strongly tempted to take up the cudgels for the poor abused Degenerates. Dr. Nordau swings the pendulum so violently in one direction that there must inevitably be a reaction in all but the most superficial minds of his readers. Therefore, whilst admiring the courageous attacks of this new Rousseau against the delirious individualism which so deeply infects modern art and literature, we are forced to condemn the exaggeration which prompts him to scent ego-mania in every contemporary poem and picture. As Matthew Arnold said in one of his letters: "It is not man who determines what truths shall present themselves to this or that age or under what aspect; and until the time comes for the new truth or the new aspect, they are presented unsatisfactorily or in vain." Dr. Nordau does not recognise this truth; and, unfortunately for his contemporaries, has an almost feminine aptitude for only seeing one, and that the worse side of a question. It is on this account that we compare him with the victims of the devil's mirror. He is always hunting for disease microbes, and is perpetually assuring us of their existence, even when he fails to produce convincing specimens.

Of his views on art and literature, we do not propose to speak; these having been already dealt with in the counter attack called *Regeneration*. But in a more recent work of the pessimistic doctor's we find a chapter on what he calls the "Matrimonial Lie" which is calculated to fill its readers with amazement. He has the greatest contempt—not for marriage in the abstract—but for marriage as it is contracted in the present day, which he declares is little better than a contemptible or criminal vice. His idea of the men and women of our time is that they are ranged into two vast self-seeking armies, each striving to get as much advantage out of the other as it possibly can, and regarding marriage as the chief means of attaining that end. He contends

that marriage ought to be the victory of altruism, and declares emphatically that instead it has degenerated into the victory of egotism. The contracting parties do not wish nor expect to live in and for each other in the new relationship, but merely to carry on a more comfortable and irresponsible single existence. They marry so that their combined fortunes may make life more agreeable, to provide themselves with a pleasanter home, to secure and maintain social prestige, to satisfy their vanity, and to enter upon the privileges and enjoyments which society refuses to the single woman and concedes to the married one. After having given us an appalling picture of the selfishness and egotism which he considers are the parents of nineteenth century marriages, Dr. Nordau very unwillingly allows that occasionally a few stray unions may be prompted by real affection or a desire for perfect companionship, although he seems to think these are distinctly in the minority. And even for such exceptions, he holds out little or no hope that the love that prompted the alliance originally will stand the test of years. He even asserts that the few couples that are faithful are so only from habit—from a conservative dread of change, in fact—a prosaic view of the question that will doubtless shock severely sundry Darbys and Joans who would prefer to give a tenderer explanation for their fidelity. Dr. Nordau is evidently a great advocate for divorce. He believes so little in the immutability of the all-absorbing passion that he complains bitterly of the hypocritical prejudices which cling still so closely to the theory of strict monogamy. He declares that Romeo and Juliet themselves would have probably been the principal figures in a *cause célèbre* had Providence allowed them the opportunity of a few years of married life together. Starting with the idea that marriage in itself does not ensure constancy, he condemns the institution as a source of much needless misery; declaring that in many cases the ultimate happiness of the contracting parties either depends on the sacrifice of all the best feelings of one of them, or on the deception and dissimulation which sins in secret and shelters itself before the world under the cloak of matrimony. He says that the conventional marriage, nine times out of ten, is hence a deeply immoral relation, fraught with the most fatal results for the future of society. It compels those who enter into it, to find themselves involved sooner or later in a conflict between forsworn vows and indestructible love, and gives them only two alternatives—vulgar intrigue or ruin. Instead of its being a source for humanity to renew its youth, it is, according to Dr. Nordau, the means of its slow suicide.

As a remedy for all this evil, the author of *Degeneration* suggests that in future women should be cared for by the State, and never allowed to feel the

pangs of want, so that they would no longer be compelled to make loveless marriages, as the sole means of improving their position. He says that this would oblige man to compete for woman's favour with his personality and not his social position and property; and that therefore the institution of matrimony would then become a truth instead of the lie it now is. We disagree with Dr. Nordau as to the cause of the evil, if evil there is. In these days of feminine advancement, it is absurd to talk of marriage as a woman's only goal; the stigma attaching to the old maid of former times no longer clings to the girl-bachelor, who is almost as free as her brother to walk in any path she may choose. We do not see either how the mere fact of enabling men and women always to follow only their heart's promptings would obviate the weariness Dr. Nordau seems to consider inevitable after the signing of the marriage contract. We are inclined to think that on the whole matrimony is not the lie it appears to one prejudiced observer. Doubtless there are many unfortunate victims who chafe against its rules; but a few must be sacrificed for the benefit of the many, and the laws of a well-ordered community are made for those who would break them, not for those to whom their observance presents no difficulties. Experience obliges us to take a more kindly view of humanity than does this Byronic professor, with his gloomy and impassioned cynicism. His vision has evidently been affected by a very large fragment of the diabolical looking-glass. We can only hope that he may speedily get rid of such an undesirable impediment, and be able some day to see clearly the "World as God has made it, full of beauty."

LI HUNG-CHANG'S VISIT TO ENGLAND.

7th Aug.

THE following is the text of the letter written to the *Times* on the 22nd of June by Professor R. K. Douglas, in anticipation of the visit of H.E. Li to England:—

"Sir,—The almost Royal receptions accorded to Li Hung-chang at Moscow and Berlin furnish a curious example of the continued fascination which China appears to exercise over the minds of European statesmen. Here we have the representative of a conquered empire, whose armies suffered defeat on every occasion when they met the enemy, and whose Government was compelled to purchase peace by ceding territory and by paying a heavy indemnity, treated with exaggerated respect and deference; while the distinguished officer who represents the victors in the strife is left in the comparative shade.

"Of course the conventional answer is that all this is 'part of the policy by which Russia and her friends mean to exact concessions from the Chinese Government. But is this device likely to accomplish its object? That it should be successful it is necessary to suppose (1) that Li will attach to these outward signs of regard the value which it is hoped he

may see in them, and (2) that his personal influence is sufficient to make his appreciation of them operative.

"Li has had 25 years of intimate experience of foreign policies in China. He has gauged the sincerity of European nations, and has marked well the objects and ambitions which direct their doings; and it is not too much to say that he has a profound distrust of a very large majority of them. At the conclusion of the war he threw himself into the arms of Russia and France, not from any love for those countries, but in order to save the Liaotung Peninsula, being perfectly well aware at the same time that a *quid pro quo* would be demanded from his Government, and knowing also that his Government would employ every device to evade paying the penalty. If the secret history of recent diplomacy in Peking could be written it would be found that it was not from any sense of the services rendered to China, but in obedience to the application of pressure and to threats of the employment of force, that the Chinese Government was induced to accede to the subsequent demands of the two allies. Gratitude finds no place in Chinese policy, and if the receptions accorded to Li at Moscow and Berlin have any effect, it will be to induce him to believe that the outer barbarians are still suppliants before the throne of the Son of Heaven—a belief which is so congenial to the majority of the Emperor's advisers that it is sure of a ready acceptance, and is equally sure to prompt a revival of the haughty contempt for foreigners which marked Chinese policy prior to the war.

"But even supposing that Li were willing to accept these civilities at the value set upon them by their profferers, what power has he of giving effect to his views? It is well known that since his transference from the Viceroyalty of Chihli to Peking his influence has been on the wane, and to those who are behind the scenes his appointment to Europe has seemed a very doubtful compliment. His enemies are numerous and high-placed, and the failure of his naval and military preparations during the late war has given them the whip-hand over him.

"As a statesman grown old in the service of his country, and as a man of marked ability, Li deserves to have every respect shown to him, but both in Moscow and Berlin respect has degenerated into excessive and unreasoning deference. It is to be hoped that as the great Chinaman travels westward a truer and, after all, a more effective attitude will be adopted towards him."

To most of us Professor Douglas will seem in this letter to have hit the nail on the head, and there was a general feeling of relief among Englishmen—and not only Englishmen—in Shanghai, when Reuter telegraphed that the Envoy's reception in England had been of the simplest nature. There is one point in the letter which seems to us a little doubtful; we are not at all sure that the failure of his naval and military preparations during the late war has given his enemies the whip-hand over him. His influence with the Empress-Dowager, who is the real ruler of China, is understood to be as great as ever. He stood by her when she made the boy whom we recognise as Kuang Hsü Emperor; and she continues to stand faithfully by him. His great wealth enables him to buy off the opposition of the Censors, and his family alliances all over China are so many buttresses to his position. He is almost the only Chinaman in a high position

who knows anything about foreign politics; and we see no reason to believe that when he returns to China he will be an extinct volcano. Had he made his trip to the West before the late war, we foreigners in China should have taken more interest in his movements, and have been less repelled by the adulation that has been lavished upon him in one or two of the Courts that he has visited; but we know that he is in reality mainly responsible for the defeat of China by Japan. If the money that he spent in defensive preparations had been honestly spent, if he had taken to heart and had acted on the counsels of his foreign advisers, the result of the war would have been very different. The best published appreciation in our language of Li's character is to be found in Valentine Chirol's *Far Eastern Question*; no-one who reads that can doubt that our Government is right in not receiving the Grand Secretary with the extraordinary honours that were shown him in Germany. The *Times* itself in a leading article on the 24th of June deprecates his being treated with anything more than the courtesy and the hospitality which we would accord to any other Oriental of distinction coming to England in the course of his travels; and concludes by saying that "it is probable that the kind of reception he will meet with here will impress him quite as much as the gorgeous pageants of Moscow and the military spectacles of Berlin. He knows us, and he knows that we know him, and he will respect us all the more for refusing to pretend to overvalue him and his country."

The *Times* repeats, as we learnt by telegram yesterday morning, the story that one of the main objects of Li's visit to the West is to get the consent of the Treaty Powers to the tariff being doubled. There is no doubt that China, as we have pointed out several times, wants the money; and if the Central Government has to rely for it on the Provincial authorities, it will be raised in the most unsatisfactory and wasteful manner, and the exaction of it will be accompanied by risings of more or less importance all over the country. The import trade could stand the doubling of the tariff, if it were accompanied by the abolition of all internal taxation on foreign goods. This is one of the considerations for which Lord Salisbury should stipulate; and the opportunity should be taken to settle at the same time all the outstanding grievances between foreigners and the Chinese. *Do ut des* is a good working maxim. Sir Claude Macdonald has in his pigeon-holes or on his desk a long list of items which should be put into the bill; and on condition of their being liquidated we should accede to what China asks. It is our interest to keep China at least strong enough to preserve her own integrity; it is not our interest to see her partitioned; and if we do not

help her to raise enough money to pay her way, she will break up. If we can get sufficient guarantees that our just claims will be fairly met, and that the increased revenue we are asked to help her to collect will be properly spent, we should agree to her request. For much less pressing reasons we have consented to Japan's increasing her tariff.

Reviews.

THE ENGLISH MAIL PAPERS.

(FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 26TH OF JUNE.)

THERE is no doubt that one of the most important topics of the week whose papers are before us was the abandonment by the Government of the Education Bill. The *St. James's*, which is a thoroughly Conservative organ, does not mince matters in its remarks on this unexpected sequel to the Bill's passing its second reading by such an unprecedented majority. It says:—

Unhappy in its life and dishonoured in its death, the Education Bill has not been fortunate in its obsequies. The earth was raked over its clay in a singularly undignified manner on Monday. To do a disagreeable thing gracefully is not given to every man. Mr. Balfour, with his pleasant manner and address, as a rule does it as well as most people; but we cannot congratulate him on the mode in which he performed the funeral rites over the Education Bill. To err is human; and Ministers, like other people, must make mistakes. But when a Government has mismanaged its business so badly that it has to execute a humiliating, almost a degrading, retreat in the face of the enemy, it is not very fair or candid, nor even quite gentlemanly, to lay the blame of the failure on everybody else. Mr. Balfour's explanation was an indictment of things in general, the House of Commons, and Her Majesty's Opposition. There was no admission, apparently no consciousness, of the fact that the failure (for what is the good of denying that it is a failure, and a damaging one?) was due very largely to himself and his colleagues, and to the way in which the affairs of the House of Commons have been conducted this Session.

Mr. Balfour went out of his way on Monday to speak contemptuously of the influence of the Press in politics. He "did not read the *Times*," and "the Press, however well instructed, never can form a full and true estimate of our proceedings." Perhaps if Mr. Balfour would pay a little more attention to the Press he would not make so many mistakes. The Unionist newspapers, however badly instructed, were unanimous as to the impracticability of Mr. Balfour's Foreign Office scheme, and its opinion has been justified by events. The fact being, of course, that the Press generally relies upon the average opinion of the mass of the party for its political statements, and not merely on the desires of the "bosses" of the party. It would be better if the leaders did the same.

The Liberal papers chuckle naturally at the disappointment of the Government, but they are all very polite to Mr. Balfour, who is one of the most popular of men with every party in the House. The *Daily News* says:—

There is no desire among friends or foes to bear hardly upon Mr. Balfour. He is personally the most courteous of opponents, and nobody, we feel sure, has any wish to celebrate an individual triumph over him. It is curious how little so clever and observant a man understands the House of Commons. Anthony Trollope in one of his political novels describes a grotesque scene. A worthless member of Parliament, whom nobody respects, is supposed to have been charged with shortening the days of his grandmother. He asks leave to make a personal explanation, and takes what is called the manly and straightforward course. "I have to confess, Mr. Speaker," he says, "that in circumstances of extreme provocation I did lift my hand

upon the old lady. It was an inexcusable act, and I can only throw myself with all humility upon the indulgence of the House." For the first time in his Parliamentary life he receives a sympathetic cheer. This absurd caricature, which Trollope puts by way of hypothesis, contains the germ of truth that there is nothing for which the House of Commons will not accept an apology. Mr. Balfour suffers from living in a small set who treat his most trivial observations as oracular utterances from on high. He made a fatal mistake in attributing the result of his own blunders, first to the wickedness of Sir William Harcourt, and, secondly, to the decline of Parliamentary institutions. Nothing is to be gained by disingenuous and ignoble subterfuges of this kind.

The *Daily Chronicle* says:—

As a matter of fact, it is the revelation of a lack of resource and backbone in the Conservative leaders which has been most keenly resented by their following. And there are other causes of interior weakness. It was made clear during the discussion on the Education Bill that what a good many Conservatives wanted was not simply a new measure but a new Government. The Unionist alliance is all very well in Opposition, but when it comes to the dividing of the spoils it is apt to be an encumbrance to the eager spirit of pure Toryism. For our part we think that the present arrangement cannot last. Mr. Balfour is a figure of singular charm, but he is no Parliamentary leader, and he never will be. The Tory party must either open both their arms to Mr. Chamberlain or they must shut them. If they choose the latter course, they will break up the combination and lose the next election, but they may make for the ultimate strength of their party. If they take the former alternative, the sooner Mr. Chamberlain leads the House of Commons, and Mr. Balfour adorns a Chamber where the majority is not 150 but 400, the better for the electoral prospects of Conservatism.

And the same paper has a very amusing little poem, based on Mr. Balfour's plaintive admission of his own incapacity:—

A BABE IN THE WOOD.

"In these matters I am a child."—Mr. Balfour.

A simple child
That lightly pulls the strings,
The First Lord of the Treasury—
What should he know of things?

I met a middle-aged M.P.
Who publicly would state
He was a child. From trouble he
Had grown inaccurate.

He had an urban clubland air,
And he was nicely clad;
His Ayes were fair, and very fair
His Noes, they made me glad!

"Now come, my little man," I cried,
"What is your party at?"
"Sixes and sevens," he replied.
He seemed depressed at that.

"Such figures ill accord," I said,
"With your majority;
Now, do not blush or hang your head,
But, Arthur, tell me why."

"Sixes and sevens we're at, but still
That's but one thing in three—
We're at the Education Bill,
And also we're at sea."

"And yet you speak like other chaps;
Your members are alive"—
"If some of them were not, perhaps"
(He sighed) "the rest would thrive."

"Come, chase," I cried, "such thought
away,
Relax that wrinkled brow.
You had a party once—oh, say,
'Where is dat barty now!'"

"They are," he said, "at Westminster,
A very numerous throng."
"What for?"—"I hardly know, I fear,
It will not be for long."

"'Tis there I take my Bills in hand,
They're ragged at the hem,
And badly patched—and yet I stand—
I stand, and speak for them."

"And there sometimes perforce I quaff
The early morning air,
And take my little *pince-nez* off,
And eat my breakfast there."

"Your Bill is dead; it's shocking dead!
To speak on it is wild."
'Twas throwing words away, for still
He cried, "I love that blessed Bill,
Because I am a child!"

The *Standard* naturally does not like to blame the Government too much for the catastrophe, so it throws the blame on the "factious manœuvres" of the Opposition, and the undue loquacity of the House, both being phenomena by no means novel, and which would be controlled, as they have been before, by a strong Leader of the House. It says:—

When things go wrong in this world it is never easy to adjust the responsibility for the mishap with absolute impartiality; and only extreme partisans would pretend to say to what extent the Opposition, by reason of factious manœuvres, are to be held accountable for the present condition of business, and in what degree the Government are themselves to blame for the disagreeable situation in which they have been landed. One conclusion, however, can be, and will be, drawn by every disinterested person with absolute confidence, and without any qualification: the difficulty that Governments now find in legislating—unless they resort to the violent curtailment of debate, which is repugnant to all lovers of freedom of discussion—is mainly due to the House itself, and to the peculiar machinery that renders it possible for individuals, and small groups of members, though forming together an insignificant minority, to delay almost indefinitely the progress of Bills through their various stages. Loquacity, therefore, or excess of talk, is what the House of Commons is suffering from; but it has itself, and its own regulations, to thank if this passion can be indulged in without restraint.

We refer lower lower down to the wreck of the *Drummond Castle*, but we must note how strong an impression had been made in England by the tenderness and devotion of the fisher-folk of Molène and Ushant, from the Curé down to the poorest peasant. *The Times* says:—

Deplorable as the loss of the *Drummond Castle* has been, and deep and widespread the sorrow which it has brought to homes in this country and in South Africa, there is one bright spot which stands out amid the general gloom. It is with pleasure and with gratitude that we recognise the debt we owe to the rough fisher-folk of Molène Island and of the neighbourhood. They have done all that men could do alike for the living and for the dead. It is by their ready help that the three survivors from the wreck were saved and were well cared for afterwards. It was by two Molène fishers that Wood and Godbolt were picked up at sea almost at the last moment, and when the hope of rescue had well nigh been given up. It is to an old Breton sailor that Mr. Marquardt owes his escape from the fate of the two or three companions who had been saved with him from the wreck and had perished from exposure afterwards. Very touching, too, are the accounts which we have received of the tender care which these islanders have bestowed on the dead. The burial has been accompanied by every mark of respect and sympathy on the part of the little island community, and it has been given, too, with the full rites of the church, thanks to the old-fashioned charity of the Curé and of his fellow priests.

H. E. Li Hung-chang must have laughed in his sleeve at the attentions paid him in Germany and it was like him to assume the credit for the order of the three cruisers from Stettin, the contract for which was really settled at Peking. In reference to his visit to London the *Overland Mail* says:—

Professor Douglas, and the London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*, and other more or less shrewd and "well-informed" people seem inclined to regard Li Hung-chang's mission as more self-imposed than authoritative, and the *Times* affects surprise

at the "almost royal splendour" of the reception accorded to him in Russia and Germany. His mission, it is suggested, was to represent the Chinese Emperor at the Moscow ceremonies, and beyond that he only has letters of introduction to the various Courts, and doubt is even thrown on his authority to place any orders from the Government at Peking. The Brussels correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* however asserts that the old Minister has ordered three cruisers from the Vulcan shipyard at Stettin, each of 2,950 tons register, whether off his own bat or on account of his master is not stated. But it is evident, whatever his credentials, that he has been taken seriously in Germany as a personage potent enough to reckon with and to merit the highest consideration, and we can hardly imagine that the German Emperor would have gone to the extent he has done in lavishing attentions on Li unless he had solid reasons for regarding him as the plenipotentiary of his sovereign.

The relations indeed between the powerful monarch of the West and the Eastern statesman seem to have gone beyond the bounds of mere official cordiality. This probably will not tend to increase the warmth of his welcome in Paris. So far as this country is concerned we do not think that any harm can be done by giving the Viceroy a distinguished reception, and we rather deprecate the remarks to which we have alluded. Possibly their inspiration may have come from the Chinese agency here, and in the existing state of affairs in China it is not all unlikely that official jealousies may be operating invidiously to Li Hung-chang. So long, however, as he is alive it is impossible to predict what he may or may not become, and if the Germans, who are likely to be better informed than we are about the situation at Peking, have thought it worth while to treat him with very marked distinction, it seems to indicate on their part a belief in his present and future position which it would not be wise for our Government to ignore.

It is curious, and we hope it is not significant, that the *Overland Mail* should say that the Germans are likely to be better informed than we are about the situation at Peking; and it would be interesting to get some explanation of the remark. Meanwhile, all Englishmen here will see with pleasure that Li has had a very quiet reception in London.

The Military Tournament in London has been followed by a Fire Brigade Tournament, and our firemen will be interested in the following account of the historical pageant of fire engines:—

The pageant is led by the firemen who undertook the hazardous work of quenching London fires in the time of Edward I. Two of them carry halberds, doubtless to keep back the curious crowds, for it is hard to see what other purpose of life-saving a halberd could fulfil at a fire. Their companions are attired in garments which we must refuse to consider as appropriate to the work in which they were engaged. The garments appear to be of most inflammable material, and their loose ends and general fit give rise to the suspicion that the firemen of the Plantagenets confined their efforts to keeping the crowd in order. The times of Good Queen Bess were more practical. In those spacious Elizabethan days the firemen brought with them the first fire-engine, an instrument which it is true appears to be better adapted to the purpose of watering a garden than of putting out a fire, but still distinctly an engine. If the objects of the Elizabethan fire brigade were the same as those of the Plantagenet competitors there is no doubt that their fire-engine would be considerably more effective in enforcing respect upon the spectators. The great strides made in fire brigade improvements during the period of the Stuarts is apparent from the fact that the next fire-engine was invented just before the Great Fire of London. This fire-engine, which is manned (in the pageant) by gentlemen whose garb is a respectful compromise between that of the Cavaliers and the Puritans, had buckets as the feeding pump. It took another century to evolve the suction pump, and even at that date the volunteers for the service displayed very poor judgment in the selection of their costume. But in 1814 fire-engines began to improve fast; the firemen were put

in uniform, and then as now they were accompanied by a policeman, a provision which shows that in the course of centuries the fire brigade has never lost sight of the prime necessity of keeping the public from encroaching on the scene of action. The pageant is brought to a close by fire engines of the present day, and of the last fifty years—a period during which great advances have been made.

The *Economist's* note on the Money Market is a brief one:—

Some little hardening of continental discount rates has been reported this week, and the exchanges have turned slightly against this country. These movements, however, have no significance affecting prospects here, and the flow of gold from abroad has continued. The market rate for best three months' paper remains at $\frac{1}{10}$ per cent., and so far as can be seen there is at present no prospect of a change in the condition of stagnation which has kept the Bank rate at 2 per cent for nearly two years and a-half, and loaded the market with superfluous funds.

The *Economist's* first leading article is a very dry one, on "The Methods of Parliament." It attributes the breakdown of the Government to two mistakes: 1) that they introduced too many measures; 2) that the House shirks the hard and steady "grind" necessary if the work undertaken is to be done. In answer to the complaint of Mr. Balfour that the Government was hampered by election pledges, the *Economist* says that it ought not to have given the pledges. The House does not work nearly hard enough.

Even a despot cannot really govern unless he will give his life to the work, and Members of the House of Commons must give up the notion that they can govern and yet live in their House as if it were a club, doing work just when it suits them, and taking as long holidays as if they were gentlemen at ease. They are not gentlemen at ease, but gentlemen entrusted with lofty functions on condition that they will postpone their own convenience to the public service, and work in it as hard and as continuously as if they were professional men. They have no right to five months' holiday in the year, no right to three days' holiday in the week, no right to begin the day practically at five o'clock, and they will find as time goes on that they must either give up their leisurely methods, or must surrender more of their powers into the hands of the Cabinet, which even now has possessed itself as fully as ever Napoleon III did of the sole initiative. They are continually talking of new plans for expediting work, but they will find that either they must reduce work, which means surrendering power, or they must give more time to it and take more out of themselves by continuous sitting.

The members, if they can bear to part with some of their local influence, may relieve the strain on themselves by delegating the private business to great tribunals or Commissions of Improvement, but they can only accelerate public business by working very much harder. They must meet at three, must sit till one, must utilise Saturdays or Wednesdays, or both, and must continue in London, in spite of all country attractions, until their business is disposed of. That is what all other professional men except judges are compelled to do, and though Members of Parliament are unpaid in cash, they are paid in social dignity, in authority, and in their first-hand and most interesting cognisance of great affairs. All these clever devices for shunting business on to special sittings are, they may depend on it, in actual practice devices for leaving business undone, and nothing better.

In an article headed "The St. Louis Convention," the *Economist* explains that investors have shown little interest in the outcome of the Convention, because in the first place, there is no confident belief in England in the sincerity of the machine-made gold standard resolution which was adopted; and secondly, because the strong pronouncement of the Convention in favour of a protective tariff has produced a bad effect in England; "and what probably has a still worse effect is the jingoistic tone of the Republican declaration with regard to foreign policy." Then comes an article on "The Indian Railway System," which

should be translated and sent round to all the officials in this Empire, if as a class they were capable of being taught anything. "The railway system of India is at present represented by a total of 19,800 miles of all gauges. The inadequacy of this is generally recognised, and especially by the present Viceroy, Lord Elgin. It is scarcely an exaggeration to say that had it not been for its railways India would now be bankrupt." There is a useful article showing "Why Spain cannot afford to lose Cuba." There is also a good note on "British Trade and Foreign Competition."

The following are the opening Notes in the *Saturday Review*—

Mr. Balfour's announcement on Monday that the Government were going to drop the Education Bill was received by the House of Commons, even by his political opponents, in a kindly spirit. The House, it is true, realised, perhaps for the first time, that Mr. Balfour has not—indeed, never had—any "authority" in the House; it is not in the temperament of such a man to possess authority. But his personal influence can scarcely be said to have diminished. More than half of the Conservative party cheered and encouraged him in his speech; and he much needed encouragement. Sir William Harcourt's reply was excellent in its way; but the points he made were easy and obvious. His speeches (considerably cut down, we believe), as recorded in the *Times*, are interesting to read; but they are not always interesting to listen to. He is losing much of his old terseness of expression; and his orations are now characterised by a prolixity and diffuseness that seem lately to have been growing upon him.

But there was one touch in his speech which was equal to the best of the "good things" he has ever uttered in the House of Commons, and which Lord Beaconsfield himself would not have disdained to claim for his own. It was admirable alike in its point and in its delivery. Speaking of Lord Cranborne, Sir William Harcourt said:—"There are many things which I envy the noble Lord, but there is nothing which I envy him more than his youth (*long pause*)—and inexperience." But the mask of a jester sometimes hides an incurable sadness. It is so with Sir William Harcourt. He is nearly seventy years old, and he feels his age. To his intimate friends he laments that, having at length reached a position with infinite possibilities, he can reckon on comparatively few more years of political activity.

There is also a note which is worth quoting in reference to the *Drummond Castle* disaster. Surely the writer should have understood that a life-belt will keep a man afloat, but will not necessarily keep him alive in the sea for some hours:—

The terrible disaster to the *Drummond Castle* has, of course, been followed by the usual letters to the *Times* from admirals and other persons who "told you so long ago," and the survivors have been interviewed *ad nauseam*, and their accounts embellished with much journalistic imagination. But the really important point about the accident has not, so far as we know, been dwelt upon anywhere. It is this. All the bodies that have been recovered from the sea up till now have been found equipped with life-belts of the most modern type. One of the survivors of the catastrophe related the other day to an interviewer that when he first found himself struggling in the water he saw spots of light on the sea all around him. He could not understand it at first, but soon remembered that the life-belts were of a special kind, which as soon as they touched the water emitted a light, of so modern a type were they. And only three men survived the wreck. The question naturally arises, Of what use are the life-belts if they do not help to save life? A thorough investigation of the subject is needed, and if modern life-belts are useless, they should at once be superseded by a more serviceable appliance.

The first leading article in the *Saturday* is headed "Sir John Gorst," and begins:—"The throwing overboard of Sir John Gorst and his ill-starred Bill was one of those things which, if done at all, 'twere well it were done quickly.' Mr. Arthur

Balfour pitched the Vice-President over the side with a dignity and decision that went far to make us forget what he was doing, and even to rehabilitate in some degree his damaged reputation." The *Saturday* attributes the collapse to the fact that Sir John Gorst, the only member of the Government who understands the Education Bill, is not in the Cabinet, because "there has been a steady combination of the mediocrities to keep out a man whose superiority they dislike." The *Saturday* is delighted with the success of the Liberal party in Canada; it means the breaking-down of the corrupt "ring" against which Mr. A. J. Wilson has more than once inveighed. The remarkable feature of the success of the Liberals is that it was mainly gained in the French province of Quebec, although just before the election a mandate from the Catholic hierarchy was read from the altar in every Catholic church, declaring it to be the solemn duty of Catholics to vote for the Conservative candidates. In considering the causes of the Conservative defeat the *Saturday* says:—

Doubtless the main determining cause is to be found in the personality of the French Canadian who led the Liberal column, and who, by its victory is lifted at once into the rank of colonial rulers of whom the mother-country must take account. Mr. Wilfrid Laurier is believed by his friends to be a great man. The circumstances under which he has achieved his triumph—handicapped by an absurdly illogical "platform," and bitterly opposed by the entire organisation of the powerful church to which he belongs—certainly argue the possession of notable qualities. It is no doubt true, as the Canadian papers say, that he owes his success to "the passionate desire of the French-Canadian heart to have one of that race at the head of the Dominion." But to turn this natural desire to practical use it was necessary so to shape the campaign in the non-French parts of the Dominion that some seventy other Liberal members should be elected to aid in securing its gratification. It is hardly too much to say that no previous French-Canadian leader could have succeeded in this task. Mr. Laurier is first of all an orator; as an administrator he has not yet been tried. In his younger days he was an ardent New Frenchman of Louis Frechette's school and a thoroughgoing Free-trader. Maturer years have shown him, as he admits, that the British connection fosters and nourishes what is valuable in the French-Canadian character much more tolerantly than independence or the tutelage of Paris would do. Practical responsibility for an annual Budget will soon enough show him that a tariff in the hand is worth any number of ideal economic systems in the bush.

But beyond everything else, it is a subject for congratulation that the old party lines in Canada have been broken up. Under the incubus of fifth-rate politicians, who invented nothing, imagined nothing, did nothing, beyond using Government patronage so as to keep themselves in office, the Dominion has intellectually gone to seed. Mr. Laurier seems to belong to a much higher order of public man than the recent Canadian average. At all events he possesses ideas, and he does not bore his public into vacuous apathy. In other words, he is neither a Blake nor a Bowell. He comes into power under the impetus of a newly aroused popular spirit, the forces of which may be utilised, if he proves worthy of his opportunities, for the regeneration of Canada.

This is followed by a very unsound article on "The Free Trade Jubilee." The future historian will perhaps explain the movement in favour of protection and bimetalism in a country which has attained the highest and most unvarying prosperity with free trade and the gold standard. There is a new version by John Davidson of the Tannhäuser legend, an important article on "The Manning of the Fleet," and a reassuring one on "The British and the Roman Empire."

The *Spectator* has the two following interesting notes on the jubilee of Lord Kelvin:—

The celebration of the jubilee of Lord Kelvin (even now better known to the older generation as Sir William Thomson) as Professor of Natural Philosophy in Glasgow University, has taken place this week in Glasgow, and has produced a perfect flood of the heartiest congratulations from the scientific men of all parts of the world. Never was there a greater unanimity of sincere and eager admiration, from England, from all parts of Europe, from the United States, and even from Japan, where his pupils and admirers abound. But perhaps the most striking feature of the jubilee was the perfect modesty and even humility of Lord Kelvin's own speech on Tuesday in reply to the Lord Provost's congratulations. "One word," he said, "characterises the most strenuous of the efforts for the advancement of science that I have made perseveringly through fifty-five years; that word is failure; I know no more of electric and magnetic force, or of the relations between ether, electricity, and ponderable matter, or of chemical affinity, than I knew and tried to teach my students of natural philosophy fifty years ago in my first session as Professor. Something of sadness must come of failure." True; but there is something of sublimity in the confession, as well as in the elevation of Lord Kelvin's conception of what success would have meant, when he regards such a scientific career of constant and fertile discovery as has attracted the admiration and almost the veneration of all the world, as nothing better than failure in disguise.

The *Times* of Wednesday gives an interesting summary of Lord Kelvin's practical discoveries. He has given us the theory of the speed of electric signalling through submarine cables, and has rendered the most effective assistance to the establishment of electric telegraphs to the most distant parts of our planet. He has investigated all the causes of the disturbance of the mariner's compass, and shown how to allow for them. He has effected the most signal improvements in the art of deep-sea sounding. He has shown how to predict the rise and fall of the tide in any given place. He has altogether revolutionised the instruments for electrical measurements, and made the modern electroscopes and electrometers what they are. He has discovered balances for weighing electric currents, and for measuring electric power and energy. He has elaborated the mathematical theory of electricity. And he directed his great colleague, the late Professor Clark Maxwell, to the right method of pursuing his own electrical studies. And all this, together with a multitude of other valuable researches, he regards as "failure."

The *Spectator*, still believing that the main portions of the Education Bill would be passed in the present session of parliament, is very angry with Mr. Morley for calling Lord Salisbury's a "Harum-scarum Government." It thinks Mr. Chamberlain was quite right to see how much free-trade the colonies would adopt, though it agrees with Mr. Morley that the compensatory sacrifice that Great Britain would have to make is too heavy. It concludes by saying:

And then there is the advance on the Nile, which Mr. Morley treats as if it were the crackbrained policy of a Government of adventurers. We have dwelt on this subject in another column, but we are much mistaken if it will not prove to be one of the wisest and most successful strokes of a really strong and disinterested Government. Mr. Morley has for once got a bee in his bonnet. This Government is far less of a harum-scarum Government than that of which he was a principal member. It is not attempting impossibilities as his Government did. It is bold in conception, cautious in execution, and too strong to be in a hurry. It is Mr. Morley who is the giddy and harum-scarum assailant, and his opponents who are the cool and prudent guardians of the public interest.

In its article headed "Lord Salisbury Speaks Out" the *Spectator* shows that it is now quite entranced with the idea of the reconquest of the Soudan by England for Egypt. France cannot be offended, it says, because France does not want Egypt small, but Egypt under French influence. In an article on "The Nomination of Mr. McKinley," the *Spectator* attacks the

whole system of managing an American election. There are some animal stories this week.

Tenniel's cartoon in *Punch* is a generous one. It represents Mr. Punch, Universal Secretary of State, interviewing Mr. Kruger at Pretoria, and saying to him: "Thank you, Mr. President, for your generous treatment of the prisoners. If your Honour will refuse to follow 'unfriendly Leyds,' and can see your way to paying us a visit now, we shall give you a most hearty welcome!" The following verses are on the opposite page:—

Oom! Sweet Oom!

AIR—"Home! Sweet Home!"

'Mid castles and palaces tho' he mayn't boom,
Though his dress may be humble, there's no
boss like Oom.

Fine skill in his play seems to score and to
scare,

Which diplomat nous cannot equal elsewhere.
Oom! Oom! Cute, cute Oom!

There's no Paul like Oo-om! There's no
Paul like Oom!

Though Joe's invitation might tempt you in
vain,

O come, Paul—says *Punch*—to our shores o'er
the main!

The Boers, whom *Punch* honours, won't
question his call,

So throw over Leyds! You'll be welcomed
by all!

Oom! Oom! Tanta and Oom!

There's no guest like Oo-om! There's no
guest like Oom!

NOTICES OF BOOKS, ETC.

The Korean Repository, July, 1896. Published at the Trilingual Press, Seoul.

If the position of Korea as a factor in the Far Eastern Question did not make the country an interesting study, the Editors of the *Korean Repository* would make it so by the magazine which they send out monthly. The opening article in the issue before us is headed "The Attack on the Top-Knot," and the author, who signs himself "X.Y.Z.," begins by remarking that, "while there are many things which brought about the overthrow of the so-called Kim Hong-chip Cabinet, and the collapse of the influence behind and upholding it—so sudden and utter that it would have been ludicrous if it had not been accompanied by the tragic deaths of Kim Hong-chip and others—one of those factors certainly was the attack on the top-knot; the attempt on the part of the Cabinet to force the Korean to change in a day his time-honoured and venerated style of dressing his hair, and to make him by law cut off and discard the top-knot which he and his ancestors had worn for centuries." The writer goes on to describe this top-knot, which is essentially different from the Chinese queue and the old Japanese top-knot, and represents much more to the Korean than the other personal adornments do or did to their wearers. In the first place, it has the sanctity and commands the veneration of great antiquity. It is believed to have been "worn for at least two thousand years with the exception of a short interval, a little over five hundred years ago, when a king of the last dynasty, whose queen was Chinese or Mongolian, in order to please her and his father-in-law, tried to do away with it and to substitute the Chinese pigtail, but this attempted innovation caused great dissatisfaction and rebellion among the people, and in about a year the top-knot got on top again, and peace and quiet were restored." The Koreans are so conservative that the antiquity of the top-knot invests it with a sanctity that Occidentals find it difficult to appreciate.

Secondly, the top-knot represents manhood, for the day when the Korean substitutes it for the queue which up to that time has made him look like a

girl, is the day when he becomes theoretically and legally a man, although in fact he may be a child of only eight or nine years. Until he assumes the top-knot the Korean can hold no literary or military degree or official position; he does not until then get his name, nor can he marry; and in all but the higher classes, the top-knot is assumed almost universally for the purpose and at the time of marriage. "X.Y.Z." gives a long account of the important ceremonies that attend the assumption of the top-knot, ceremonies that may fairly be called religious. A man without a top-knot is no better off than a priest or monk, and so heartily are these caterpillars of society despised, that until within the last two years they were excluded by law from Seoul and all other walled cities. "Those who cut their hair were often insulted by being called monks. In one case I have heard of, a newly appointed magistrate who had cut his top-knot was met on arrival at his district by a great concourse of the people, and informed that they had heretofore been ruled over by a Korean man, and would not tolerate a monk magistrate. He discreetly retired, and luckily succeeded in bringing back to Seoul his diminished head upon his shoulders; other magistrates were not so fortunate."

Then, the people hate the Japanese and believed the order to abolish the top-knot to come from them. The assassination of the Queen, the plot for which was hatched in the Japanese Legation by Miura and his Japanese co-conspirators, was supposed to have been consented to by Kim Hong-chip and his friends. "The Queen was considered the mother of all the people, and her murder, greatly exciting and exasperating the masses, made the Cabinet most odious, which odium was by no means lessened by the general opinion that such Cabinet was entirely under the control of and dominated by Japanese influence and dictation." Petty and irritating reforms of all kinds were introduced by Kim and his Cabinet; but the last straw was the attack on the top-knot. It drove hundred and thousands into revolt. At last the end came.

Moved by the troubles in the country and other considerations not less weighty and important, his Majesty, on the 11th of February, took the decisive step of leaving the Palace and going to the Russian Legation. There he was free to act and to resume his hereditary and lawful rights and prerogatives. He at once issued several Royal edicts, among them one saying that the matters of dress and way of wearing the hair were trivial and that in these respects the people could do as they pleased. All the soldiers, police, and people rallied loyally in support of his Majesty and the Kim Hong-chip Cabinet collapsed utterly and instantly. The attack upon the top-knot had not only been repulsed but its assailants annihilated.

As in the country the top-knot was never abolished, it cannot be said that it has been restored. It simply remains, but in Seoul, where all of them were cut off, the most casual observer will see that all classes are resuming it as fast as their growing hair will permit. . . . Incipient top-knots, which in time will blossom into full-grown ones, are seen on every side. Some of the more sensible and advanced Koreans, realising that the foreign fashion of dressing the hair is much more convenient and comfortable, will adhere to it and I trust that in time the top-knot will disappear—but the recent attack upon it has clearly demonstrated that it is too firmly seated and fixed to be removed by force, and can only be done away with when the people by example, experience, and reason realise its disadvantages and absurdities."

Under the heading "A Fortune-Teller's Fate" Dr. H. N. Allen contributes five specimens of Korean folk-lore, or rather fairy tales; and the Rev. Daniel L. Gifford

follows with an article on "Education in the Capital of Korea." He begins with a notice of the usual native Korean School, which is much like a Chinese village school:—

"Imagine yourself, please, in a factory where a planing machine and three or four circular saws are tearing the air into shreds with their din. You can then form some conception of the noise of a native Korean school room when the pupils are conning their lessons. Let us take a look into such a school. Perhaps a dozen bright-faced lads are sitting cross-legged upon the floor, their Chinese books laid before them. The upper parts of their bodies are swaying violently, each his own time and motion, some from side to side, others forward and back, and all of them vociferating, in every musical pitch, the lesson assigned for the day. In contrast with all this movement and din is the quiet form of the school-master, sitting at the end of the room where the flue-heated floor is the warmest, on his head a crown-shaped, horse-hair hat, his nose surmounted by a pair of scholarly goggles, with a book before him, and in his hand a rod; and now and again his stentorian tones mingle with the shrilling trebles as he hurls in a word or two of correction. This is the ordinary Korean school.

"From early dawn till the sun goes down these lads drone away, now studying aloud, now writing the characters, now reciting to the master the contents of the Chinese classics, filled with the lore of the ancient sages and a pseudo-history, but scarcely an idea to lead them to understand the world in which they live in the year 1896."

As a means either of educating or of imparting useful knowledge these schools are as useless as their counterparts in China. There are, however, three other classes of schools whose influence radiates from the capital, Government vernacular schools, Government schools for the foreign languages, and missionary institutions of learning. Of the two former of these some account is given, and we learn that they are carried on with considerable success, especially the English school, which is under the charge of Mr. W. du F. Hutchinson; the missionary schools are reserved for another article. The last article is by the Rev. W. M. Baird and is the opening of an argument against the admission of polygamists to the Church. Mr. Baird is not a very strong reasoner. To those who urge that while it is a sin to have an auxiliary wife, it is a greater sin to sever the relation than to continue it, he answers: "Then though it is a sin to steal a thousand dollars it would be wrong to restore it;" forgetting that it makes no difference to the dollars what becomes of them, but a very great deal of difference to the unfortunate woman who is to be sacrificed that the man may be purged of his sin. The Editorial Department contains some Reminiscences of the 23rd of July, 1894, and a notice of the Seoul-Wiju Railway, which is to be completed by the French contractors in twelve years, and which it is said, will be a decided blessing to the kingdom.

The Messenger, August, 1896. Shanghai: The American Presbyterian Mission Press.

The scribbled message left by the man who broke jail: "Excuse the liberty I take," might be the editorial apology for the insertion of the second instalment of the correspondence re "A Method for improving Education in China," which opens this month's *Messenger*. While no liberty may have been taken with the correspondent, the general reader may feel a liberty has been taken in giving so much space to Dr. Kung's views. There are, however, we feel sure, a number of

particular *Messenger* readers who will welcome and value such expressions of opinion from enlightened Chinese, and from them get further help in seeking China's greater good.

The answers to "Some Questions in Philology" will have an interest to a limited number, but Mrs. Muirhead's happily-conveyed lessons from a simple but touching incident will be helpful to all. This is followed by a discourse on the "Miracles of the Bible" by the Rev. J. Stevens. This contribution bears evidence of being the work of one who has read widely and thought independently on the subject.

Among the other contributions are found the following as specially readable: "An Evangelistic Journey in China" (a title which might have been more topographically definite), by the Rev. James Ware; an account of the Jubilee celebration of the Evangelical Alliance; and a review by Dr. Edkins of the *China Mission Handbook*. The Rev. W. R. Hunt also contributes an *In memoriam* article on the late Rev. E. P. Hearnden, which gives a happy glimpse into the inner life of one who will be much missed by his many Chinese and foreign friends. In "Notes and Comments" several paragraphs are devoted to money matters. With reference to the demand for silver we read:—"In 1894 China imported silver to the amount of six million pounds sterling. In 1893 the import was about three and a half millions. In 1895 it was six millions. During the present year the import has already, July 23rd, reached three millions. Probably the entrance of more silver than before may be partly on account of the diminished demand for opium. Two million pounds sterling of gold were exported from China last year. The China demand for six million pounds sterling worth of silver each year helps to keep up the price of silver abroad. It also tends to lower the price of silver in China, for the Chinese have another standard, that is, copper cash. The demand for copper is due to the poverty of the people. A copper currency suits their markets, because of its divisibility. About eight Chinese cash will buy one English farthing. A cooling medicine can be bought for one cash in a drug shop. But the time for silver is coming. Prices rise, and silver, as in Japan, will be in demand. From this it may be judged that silver will not again fall below three shillings.

Outports.

CHEFOO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE WRECK OF THE "ILITIS".

Yesterday morning the arrival of a courier from the S.E. Promontory lighthouse, with the news of the wreck of the German gunboat *Ilitis* on the night of Thursday last, startled the whole community, and filled us all alike with sorrow. The gunboat left here on the morning of the day in the evening of which the typhoon reached us; she was bound for Weihaiwei, and speculation is rife as to how she happened to be off the S.E. Promontory. As yet, few details are known; the ship is known to have struck a small island some 9 miles N.E. of the Promontory; she broke in half, and only the fore portion remained above water; from it, 2 days later, 11 men were taken off by a sampan and conducted to the lighthouse; all the others perished, including all the officers. The typhoon, the first recorded one in Chefoo, did a good deal of damage, uprooting trees, unroofing houses, etc.: and many of our badly built walls collapsed, owing to the floods of rain which accompanied the storm.

SUMMER DOINGS.

We have been having quite a gay time; the *Kaiser's* band playing on the Club Terrace every Saturday evening; while last Wednesday the French flagship's band similarly delighted the community. Various enjoyable entertainments have taken place aboard several of the German ships; and a large number of guests were to have been entertained aboard the *Kaiser* this afternoon; but of course the terrible news has put a stop to all such gaieties.

29th July.

CHUNGKING.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

THE WEATHER.

Up here it rained pretty well for eighteen days until yesterday when the weather cleared up in a kind of hopeful way. Alas for our hopes, however! A very heavy thunderstorm in the afternoon brought the rain again in torrents, and for some time it really looked as if we were in for another long and miserable spell of wet. Fortunately the sun has shone once more, and to-day has really been bright and cheerful. But imagine the state of our books, clothes, and general domestic appurtenances now that it is possible to get at them. We look upon ourselves as being even worse off than the people of Hongkong who are never tired of telling us of the miseries they have to endure in the summer months from damp and what not. They at any rate have some advantages to set off against their disadvantages, while we in Chungking have none! One fears that sometimes the character of the climate is responsible for an occasional outburst of unparliamentary talk on the part of people who long to be in better quarters; and yet, in spite of its unpopular reputation, visitors continue to come to the place—some to stay, and some merely to look around, make notes, and frame resolutions for the future. If the resolutions are wise they will prevent the framers from deciding to live for any length of time in Chungking!

THE MINT.

Where is the Chungking coining plant of which we hear so much? Certainly it hasn't reached this port yet, and fears are entertained for its safety! The reputation of the Shanghai river as a safe and easily navigable stream has not been maintained of late, for it appears even a dredger cannot be kept afloat! Hence a sense of fear that our new machinery may possibly have gone to a destination other than the right one. Meanwhile, cash keeps at high rates, and for the past few weeks, the *hsien* has been supplying musty rice from the city stores to all and sundry who cannot afford to buy it for themselves at present market rates. The very poor we have always with us, and one often enough wishes for the ability to relieve a fraction of the terrible destitution which is visible around us. And we are not living in famine times. But the strain of life must always be very heavy and even touching for many of these folk. How far the poverty of the people is due to opium habits it would not be easy to say in a sentence; but the writer has a suspicion that opium must be responsible to a degree not often imagined. A really interesting and valuable

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

is that of the A.M.E.M. which is located in the country some two and a half miles from the city. Mr. Manly, the superintendent, has at the present time some 40 boys and young men under his charge, all of whom are acquiring, apart from the usual school education, a knowledge of some useful trade. The present writer made an excursion the other day to the school, and was courteously shown over the whole building by Mr. Manly. The structure itself cannot be spoken of as an architectural thing

of beauty; but it admirably answers the purpose for which it was erected. The students are taught carpentering, tailoring, boot-making, and so forth, while of late a gallant effort has been made to boil soap which shall be of sufficient excellence to put upon the market. Indeed the idea of the Superintendent is, if possible, to make the school entirely self-supporting, and it is difficult to see why it should not become so. Certainly it deserves to be successful, and its present genial Superintendent is worthy of all encouragement.

OUR DOCTOR.

We are extremely glad to know that owing to the temporary residence among us of Dr. Savin of the B.C.M., it will be possible for our hard-worked doctor to get a much-needed rest. He will in all probability go over the river to the new L.M.S. bungalow and make holiday for a week or ten days. No man in China works harder, and it is not less true to say that no one is more willing to work.

16th July.

HANCHUAN—HUPEH.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

REASSURING NEWS.

Your Wuchang correspondent's fears regarding the state of the country around Hanchuan are at present groundless. However, as his letter of last month has led to enquiry, and a generous offer of relief money, may I state that so far all is safe. The country presents a beautiful aspect, cotton and rice alike looking well. Whether the banks have burst higher up the river, or not, we have not heard; here however they have withstood the force of the water, having been recently repaired and strengthened. At present there is no apparent distress and we hear nothing of the brigandage recorded last year.

The students are assembling this week for examination.

29th July.

ICHANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE WEATHER AND THE HARVEST.

The Chinese calendar generally turns out pretty correct. A few years' experience has proved their division of the seasons to be near the point. The 22nd of July was the *Tu-shu* or great heat and sure enough we had the heat here. From the 1st of July to the 22nd we had twelve days with more or less rain, and others dull but fair. Since the 22nd the heat has been great and very oppressive, with no rain. A thunderstorm broke this evening and now it is raining a little. The heat this season is very damp and consequently very oppressive. Our former experiences of Ichang summers have been high temperatures, dry weather, but dry heat and quite bearable. With the moist heat it is hard getting a restful night's sleep. One rises in the morning half slept and very little refreshed. Because of the early rains the rice is looking well and promises a good harvest. It will be a blessing to the people as the spring and early summer have been trying owing to high price of rice.

TRAVELLERS.

Mr. Wenyon from Hongkong who passed through Ichang a few weeks ago for Chungking has returned. His experiences on the overland journey of eating fare were not very pleasant. He was not fed sumptuously. For days he had nothing but maize to eat. Mr. and Mrs. McIlwraith leave to-morrow for the West. They go by boat to Wansien and thence to Chengtu. We wish them a safe and prosperous journey.

THE TELEGRAPHIC CONNECTION

between Hankow and Ichang is reported broken. We have no news of steamers till we see their smoke at the top of the Tiger's Teeth Gorge below Ichang. The country below Shasi is reported flooded. Cargo is scarce so the steamers are not busy. A new prefect has arrived and the new Taotai is expected.

THIEVES

are prowling about at nights and have been in two foreign compounds. From the Consulate some rattan chairs were lifted but have since been recovered and the thief caught too and imprisoned. One has to be careful to keep a good watch at nights and carefully close door and windows.

SHASI IMPROVING.

Two Swedish missionaries from Wuchang arrived here last week. They had been some days in Shasi and found all quiet. They were able to walk about the streets in foreign dress, which was an impossibility a few years ago. If a foreigner appeared he was assaulted. We are pleased to hear Shasi manners are changing for the better. Our Swedish friends report progress in preparing a foreign bund and we hope soon to hear that the port of Shasi has been duly opened to trade.

28th July.

OUTPORT PLEASURES.

A private letter from this port, 1,000 miles up the Great River, says:—

Since the beginning of June we have had every variety of weather, quite an unusual thing for Ichang, where the usual summer weather is a dry, hot day, with a high temperature, by no means unpleasant—generally a north-east wind moderating the effects of the mercury when the latter is towering well up in the nineties. This year everything is changed, Shanghai days when we all suffer from the hot close, steamy atmosphere; Hankow nights, when everything you touch is scorching hot. Yet in spite of all our trying changes the community keep well. No ice, no beef, and only mountain goat now and then. Amiability reigns supreme; the babies, that sure test of climate, are all flourishing and happy; tennis if you want it four nights a week; golf on the off nights, and a very interesting sermon every Sunday night. Then if these pleasures pall, let me advise you to make the acquaintance of the Chairman of the San-Yu-Tung Club. His genial face will beam with a cordial invitation to visit that famous resort, a comfortable houseboat moored at the entrance to a charming mountain stream, bright, sparkling water to roll about in. Headers may be taken from the rocks into delicious cool pools of ten feet in depth, lovely walks up the charming valley with a great variety of beautiful scenery, ferns and wild flowers in great numbers on each side, and for the more strong and robust, Alpine walks leading to mountain tops between four and five thousand feet in height, not one walk, but many, and all most delightfully pleasant, and last, but by no means least, a grand view of the Ichang gorge, perhaps the finest gorge in the world; so that life in an outport is by no means the dull, monotonous thing some people would have us believe. We do exist, and exist very cheerfully. It is also equally true, our men here, especially the younger ones, would enjoy the picnic trips, and the walks up the valley if there were some young unmarried ladies to whom they could point out the many beauties of the place, and show them the nice quiet walks. However, they need not despair—the girls are here but far too young to climb rocks.

TRAVELLERS COME,

and travellers go, but the mighty Yangtze rolls its turbid stream to the sea forever; that stream is just now 1,000 yards wide, and 15 yards in depth and running at the rate of 5 miles an hour. Mr. Wenyon

arrived here in four days from Chungking. You may remember this enterprising traveller recently travelled from Canton to the Tungting Lake, taking his passage from Yochou to Ichang. On his way up to Chungking, he walked from Wansien, ten days' journey, to Chungking. I believe the gentleman has very much enjoyed his trip, but as he will be with you before this, you will learn the details, from his own bright breezy way of giving them. Dr. and Mrs. McIlwraith left us yesterday morning to continue their long journey westward. A short distance up river is to be done by boat to enable the Doctor to view the gorges, so we have something to look forward to namely, the Doctor's graphic description of these glorious defiles. The friends of Dr. and Mrs. McIlwraith will be pleased to hear that both leave in the best of health, and the heat, we may hope, will soon moderate. Have you read the Rev. Geo. Cockburn's new book, *John Chinaman*? it is most excellent and describes the Ichang John Chinaman to perfection—we all know him. Mr. Cockburn has a round, unvarnished tale delivered, he has set down nought in malice, nor in any unfair way favoured John, but in bringing John Chinaman to the bar of public opinion, he places him before us and describes him as he really is. Mr. Cockburn was for very many years a missionary in this part, where everybody liked him and his amiable wife and family. Your correspondent knew him well; he was a talented and able man, hospitable and kind in the highest degree, and popular with the Chinese, who in their intercourse with him very soon knew he was a *chouen* of marked ability. I hope you have read his book and enjoyed it as much as I did.

THE CROPS, ETC.

The rice crop promises a large harvest. Trade is improving and the people appear very quiet and contented. The river is falling—but the junks are not likely to be moving up-river with cargo until towards the close of August.

31st July.

KIATING—SZECHUAN.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

ANNIVERSARY OF THE RIOTS.

The various missionaries had all got back to their stations within a year of their exodus. The attitude of the people here if not positively friendly, had the negative value of being not unfriendly. Notwithstanding this, a few days before the anniversary placards were found posted up in the vicinity of the various mission stations calling upon the people to arise once more and complete the work of destruction begun last year. The placards reminded the people that last year the lives of the missionaries were spared, but advised that this time no one be allowed to escape. The charge made was the old one of killing children, etc. The attention of the *hsien* being called to the placards, he hastened to issue proclamations warning the people, and detailed men to watch the streets. The city was crowded for many days; but there was not a sign of trouble from any quarter; and we may breathe freely once more, at least, I suppose, until the next examinations.

MRS. BIRD BISHOP

passed down the river some weeks since in very poor health. What a disappointment to learn of the treatment she has received at the hands of both people and officials in this province! She came to this province armed with a passport that everyone assured her would work wonders even with the most obstinate and anti-foreign mandarin. Issued really through the influence of the British Premier by the Chinese Ambassador in London it proved almost as valueless as a common piece of red paper. It was a sore disappointment to this intrepid

traveller to be compelled to return to Shanghai, with her plans in great part frustrated, because of the treatment she had received in her journey. We have been holding it almost as an axiom that, at least, grey hairs would be respected in China. Yet this kind-hearted lady of over sixty years was stoned to insensibility while travelling quietly and without parade on a country road.

THE FRENCH COMMISSION.

A little time since they seemed to be moving in every direction in this vicinity. Sometimes travelling in private chairs and again with official retinue. Lately we have seen none about. They surely have succeeded in securing a vast amount of commercial data to present on their return.

MESSRS UPDRAFT AND OPENSHAW

lately arrived and have gone on to Yachou. These gentlemen since last year have made the long journey to Burma and back overland. Their journey was full of interesting incidents; and both are convinced that France has her eye upon Szechuan. Yunnan in their judgment is but a means to a much more important end. Speaking as American Missionaries they sincerely hope that Szechuan may never come under French influence; while they as strongly hope it may come under that of the British.

THE MISSIONS.

The C.I.M. are expecting some gentlemen here soon who were formerly members of Miss Taylor's Tibetan mission; but who now are associated with the C.I.M. They propose staying in Szechuan studying the language until a favourable opportunity presents itself of entering Tibet. The Canadian Mission has been able to purchase a good property since the return of the missionaries and has almost completed the work of renovating the dwellings. Dr. Hare expects in a short time to begin work on a large new brick hospital.

13th July.

TIENT'SIN.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

AN EARTHQUAKE SHOCK

of somewhat alarming nature was our chief excitement last week. It occurred at 8.50 p.m. on Wednesday, the 22nd of July, when most of the community were at dinner. Either Tientsin was on the extreme limit of the wave or the latter had little breadth, for only a few of the houses in the Settlement proper were affected. Those folk who did not feel it are as usual incredulous and disposed to chaff, but none the less emphatic are those who did feel it about the real nature of the shock. It differed from all others during the last decade by the fact that it was preceded by a dull harsh grating noise, something like the fall of a brick wall. The shock itself succeeded this noise after an interval of two seconds and lasted between two and three seconds. It was severe enough to give one all the usual uncanny sensations—that the bottom of the universe was about to fall out, etc., etc. It will be interesting to observe if the seismologists in other districts noticed the phenomenon. In the native city it was felt only in some streets.

PHYSICAL DISCOMFORT

is at its climax, the weather during the last few days having been at its worst. We are now in the *Ching Fu*: the natives up here give the name of *Fu Tien* to the thirty days of the summer in which the damp heat reaches its climax. I can't say whether these three *Fu Tien* (*T'ou, Chung, and San*, each of ten days) are determined by lunar or solar data or are simply fixed at the discretion of some "Old Moore" in the Almanack Office in Peking, but as a matter of fact, the end of the third *Fu* has often a rough coincidence with that change in the weather which brings in the champagne air.

NO FLOOD

has appeared up to date, though we have a brimming river. The rain-fall in the western hills has happily been distributed so far, and the congested Peiho has been equal to its drainage duty, but we are not out of danger yet. Scour has begun in the said Peiho; the U.S.S. *Monocacy* has now fifteen feet on each side of her and is afloat in a deep hole. The *Heron's* steam-whistle was again heard in the Reach this week—a most welcome sound. For the last three weeks the shallows have prevented all the more powerful tow-boats reaching the bund. Things have now improved in the upper reaches, but on the other hand lower down things are a little worse. Mr. A. de Linde has started on his survey; it is understood that the Chinese authorities are co-operating more or less with the B.M.C. and the Chamber of Commerce in the investigation.

PEKING NEWS

has it that all the negotiations of the last ten months have ended in a decision to get three cruisers from Germany at a total cost of £480,000 and one from Elswick at £360,000 (figures approximate in both cases). This tallies with similar news given out six weeks ago *re* guns for the Northern fortifications, in which it was hinted that Krupp and Armstrong were to go *with pan, yih pan*. That something has definitely been concluded either way is evident from the departure of Admiral Dunlop, who has been representing the great Elswick firm here the past twelve months.

SPORT

is reduced to dominoes and cold drinks, but is pretty active within these modest limitations. The interior of the Tientsin Club in these days is strongly reminiscent of Paris *café* life: the click of the bones is constant. Thanks to a very energetic committee, improvements are more the order of the day in this institution. Former visitors would now hardly recognise the interior of the ancient building.

THE CLUB CONCORDIA

is proudly raising its head nearly *vis-à-vis* to the old establishment: it promises to be a handsome edifice; ditto the new Chartered Bank. The Municipal extension buildings are also making a brave show; they present a long *facade* to Victoria Road and are in strict harmony with the Town Hall. When the new Tug and Lighter Co.'s premises are up, and the Japanese Consulate is re-built, that part of our Settlement will be the Pall Mall of North China.

THE MAHOMMEDAN REBELLION

in Kansu has produced its Homer, although he is far from Homeric. Letters of fascinating and horrible interest are appearing in the *Peking and Tientsin Times*. The writer is evidently a fine fellow, though the literary art is not his strongest point. He deters the would-be reader by long mixed preambles about AB, DE, and XY, till one gets lost in the doubt whether it is a discussion on the geometry of *n* dimensions or on contemporary history. If the reader perseveres, however, he has his reward. Verily the altruism of nineteen centuries of Christ has not yet got on the Asiatic central plateau. West is West, and East is still East with a vengeance, *teste* the appalling disclosures in these extraordinary letters.

27th July.

CLARKE'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE.

—“The most searching Blood Cleanser that science and medical skill have brought to light.” Sufferers from Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, ‘bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of any kind are solicited to give it a trial to test its value. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.

THE UNITED STATES.
(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

The first gun in the presidential campaign has been fired, and, as the cable has informed you long before this, William McKinley, the Apostle of Protection, has been nominated as the standard-bearer of the Republican party. A fact that may be called queer at the least, was observable prior to the St. Louis convention, *viz.*, that long before the Republican Press was advocating the nomination of the present candidate, the Democratic papers were earnestly engaged in “booming” him, that is, in predicting his nomination and keeping his name prominently before the public as the candidate. Notoriously active was the N. Y. *World*. Not that this paper and the smaller fry following its lead had been converted to the doctrine of the ex-Governor of Ohio, or because they considered him a worthy successor to the presidential chair, but because his public life offered more vulnerable points than that of the other candidates, and he was therefore the most likely to be defeated at the polls. So far they have succeeded, and, although it is but a few days since the nomination was made, the cloven foot is making its appearance. James Creelman who, during the late unpleasantness between China and Japan, became *persona non grata* to the last-named Empire on account of his description of the taking of Port Arthur, and who, while acting as *World* correspondent in Cuba, was requested to vacate by General Weyler, is now in Ohio on behalf of his paper and has unearthed at least one letter written by the Major which will prove rather inconsistent with the Republican monometallic platform. It seems that the Ohio statesman, when running for office, whether for member of Congress or for Governor of his State, made his speeches acceptable to his audience to the detriment of principle. This must have been the reason that he and his campaign manager, a gentleman blossoming under the classical cognomen of Mark Aurelius Hanna, wished to make Protection the battle-cry. But it would not do! The financial question has been brought to the fore by the past years of “hard times,” and both free silverites and gold bugs are determined to fight it out to the finish. Hanna pretends, of course, that he has always been in favour of monometallism, and his admirers ask, What is the matter with Hanna? There is, at this moment of writing, a lull before the storm. We are waiting, and a good many of us are anxiously waiting, the results of the Democratic Convention of Chicago. You will know all about it before this reaches Shanghai, but it will be just as well to inform you what may be expected. There will be 904 delegates; 542 are instructed or will vote for free silver, 338 are for gold, and 24 are contested or uncertain. The free silverites are, therefore, in the majority. According to precedent, however, it would require a two-thirds majority to settle the question; but the majority may, and probably will, set precedent at naught, following the tactics employed by T. B. Reed when Speaker of the 51st Congress, and declare for free silver, in which case the Democratic Party will again be disrupted. Look now at the list of delegates.

	Gold.	Silver.	Contested.
Alabama	—	22	—
Arkansas	—	16	—
California	—	18	—
Colorado	—	8	—
Connecticut	12	—	—
Delaware	5	—	—
Florida	6	2	—
Georgia	2	24	—
Idaho	—	6	—
Illinois	—	48	—
Indiana	—	30	—
Iowa	—	26	—

Kansas	—	20	—
Kentucky	—	26	—
Louisiana	—	16	—
Maine	10	2	—
Maryland	16	—	—
Massachusetts	30	—	—
Michigan	28	—	—
Minnesota	16	—	—
Mississippi	—	18	—
Missouri	—	34	—
Montana	—	6	—
Nebraska	—	—	16
Nevada	6	—	—
New Hampshire	—	8	—
New Jersey	—	20	—
New York	72	—	—
N. Carolina	—	22	—
N. Dakota	—	6	—
Ohio	44	2	—
Oregon	—	8	—
Pennsylvania	64	—	—
Rhode Island	8	—	—
S. Carolina	—	18	—
S. Dakota	—	—	8
Tennessee	—	24	—
Texas	—	30	—
Vermont	8	—	—
Virginia	—	24	—
Utah	—	6	—
Washington	4	4	—
W. Virginia	—	12	—
Wisconsin	24	—	—
Wyoming	—	6	—
Arizona	—	2	—
New Mexico	—	2	—
Oklahoma	—	2	—
Indian Territory	—	2	—
District of Columbia	1	1	—

It will be seen that of the Eastern or Atlantic States all are for gold, with the exception of New Jersey and New Hampshire. Of the middle states, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin are against the white metal, although it is claimed that Michigan would have instructed for silver if trickery had not been used. But the South and the West are practically unanimous in demanding free coinage. That the States which produce silver, Montana, Idaho, Utah, and Nevada should be anxious for this change, is natural; but that the purely agricultural States should clamour for silver has a deeper and more serious cause.

The farmer in the United States has, for several years, suffered from hard times. Not only that he has been taxed to the utmost for transportation; that his necessities, such as clothing, etc., have under the system of protection cost him many times the amount that he ought to have paid, but owing to different causes, the price obtained for cereals and other farm produce has been extremely low, while the commercial and manufacturing States have easily been able to weather the period of depression, the farmer has not, and the condition of States like Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, the Dakotas, etc., has gone from bad to worse. This accounts for the dissatisfaction prevalent in the West and South, and those interested in free silver coinage, that is at the ratio of 16 to 1, have seized the opportunity to scatter broadcast pamphlets in which the wretched condition of affairs was ascribed to scarcity of coin, and free silver held up as a panacea. Under the circumstances it was natural that any explanation should be acceptable, and the result is the present sectional contest; for the real issue of the present presidential campaign is a peaceful revolt of the tributary states of the South and West against the plutocratic power of the East.

But the leaders in the East are perfectly aware of this fact, and there is no doubt whatever that money will be spent freely to avert the defeat of Eastern supremacy, in other words, that bribery will be resorted to, to perpetuate the existing conditions. It is an ugly expression to use, but the facts are there. The N. Y. *World* (evening issue of the 22nd of June) boldly asserted that the enormous amount of \$4,000,000 had been placed at the disposal of the Chairman of the Campaign Committee.

It is also a fact, however, that the advocates of free silver are well aware that the present campaign will decide the issue; or, to state it more plainly, that defeat at the polls will decide the monetary policy of the United States and bury their cause. It may engender bitter sectional feeling, but for free silver it means simply to be or not to be.

Under the momentous issue involved, Protection, which made McKinley the standard bearer of his party, will be lost sight of, much to that gentleman's distress. It is safe to foretell that his letter of acceptance will endeavour to withdraw the attention of the people from finance to trade,—but it will be a sad failure. While the Republican candidate may be elected, it is not probable that he will be able to tinker with the tariff as the Populists, Democrats, and Free Silver men will be able, in the Senate, to block any measure in favour of Eastern manufacturers.

R. VAN BERGEN.

New York, 26th June.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTE.

Specially translated for the North-China Herald.

17th May.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) As the post of prefect of Foochow, the provincial capital of Fukien, is one of great importance, Pien Pao-ch'uan, the Viceroy of Min-Ché, is ordered to select from amongst the substantive prefects of Fukien the man best fitted for that post and let Chang Ch'eng-pin be appointed to the post vacated by the officer of the said Viceroy's choice.

(2) Ch'ang Shun, Tartar-General and Military Governor of Kirin, presents a memorial reporting that although the period of leave of absence graciously granted by us to him for the object of curing his numerous maladies has expired, he is still in a state of inconvalescence, and fearful that the duties of his important post will suffer from his continued absence, he humbly prays that we will grant him his *congé* and permit him to retire into private life. Ch'ang Shun's prayer is hereby granted and he is permitted to retire to his Banner Reservation (in Peking) to pay exclusive attention to the curing of his bodily complaints.

(3) We have received the report of Li Ping-heng, Governor of Shantung, with reference to the reforms he intends to make in his province in the Customs department. Investigations made by the said Governor, assisted by Li Hsing-jai, the Customs Taotai of Chefoo (T'eng-lai-ch'ing Intendancy of Shantung), and the Taotai of the Lingtsing Customs in the same province, into the Customs (likin) revenue properly manipulated show that some Tls. 80,000 per annum can be easily added to the Imperial exchequer. The sum appears to have been obtained from the illegal perquisites which former Taotais and their subordinates had been wont to pocket for their own benefit. The above results clearly show the clean-handedness of the said Governor and Taotais, their patriotism and loyalty to the Throne, and a proper attention to cleanse the peculative propensities of department officials that have been apparent to all but those most concerned. Taking the above as an example one might easily infer that avarice and dishonesty have been rampant and that the Customs departments in the other provinces are equally amenable to a purifying process. Furthermore, that the usual complaint of the revenues falling off and a plea to be allowed to be excused

from sending the quota required by law to Peking, are really but hollow shams and the recourse of dishonest officials. We therefore now call upon all our Viceroys, Governors, and Superintendent of Customs throughout the Empire to remember their duty to their Sovereign and deserve the confidence reposed in them by us. We exhort them now to be faithful to their duties and by strict and diligent investigation into every department put a stop to the drainage flowing into dishonest pockets and turn it into their proper channel—the Imperial exchequer. They are called upon to give a true statement of how matters really stand and report the same to the Board of Revenue nor should they allow themselves to be influenced by dishonest motives. In this way shall we be able to protect our revenues for the benefit of the country. Let this decree be promulgated for the knowledge of all.

18th May.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

Ho Ch'ang-ts'ing is hereby appointed Naval Commander-in-Chief of Kuangtung province.

No papers of interest.

19th May.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) Liu Shu-t'ang, Governor of Honan, sends us the following report of the robbing of a *yamen* in his province and the results of his trial of the brigands concerned in the above raid. In March of this year a band of mounted brigands forced their way into the *yamen* of the district magistrate of Linhsien, with the object of plundering the place. The magistrate of the said district, Ts'ao Shan-chen, assisted by the local military garrison, then had a fierce encounter with the brigands in which two of the latter were killed. Eventually over a dozen of the same band were successively captured and these men are now undergoing trial in the prefectural city of which the said district is subordinate. Now to think that an important place like the *yamen* of the chief magistrate of the district should be audaciously entered by a band of robbers trusting in numbers to plunder the place, and for them to resist, arms in hand, the attacks of the local troops, resulting in the wounding of a number of the latter, clearly shows a contempt for the constituted authorities and a total disregard of life which must not be permitted to pass off too leniently. Liu Shu-t'ang is hereby commanded to instruct the prefect of Changt'eu to conduct a strict investigation and sentence the guilty ones to the severest punishments. The said Governor is also commanded to see to it that there is no relaxation in the search for the brigands who have so far escaped capture, in order that the whole band may be brought to justice, and none escape the net of the law.

(2) Ch'en Chi-hsiang is appointed Brigadier-General of the Military Circuit of Yuanyang, in the province of Hup-h.

(3) Yen Mou, Governor Adjunct of Kirin, is appointed Acting Tartar General and Military Governor of the said province.

20th May.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

Fu Jun, Governor of Anhui, in his memorial concerning the projected resurvey of the said province for the purpose of making an accurate assessment of the various grain-bearing districts there, asks for certain officials, not now in Anhui, who he thinks will be of great assistance to him in the work on hand. The following officials are applied for by the said Governor, viz.:—Sun Pao-tien, a Metropolitan graduate (*Chinshih*) of Shantung and formerly district magistrate of Shuch'uanhsien; P'an Wên-to, a *Hanchun* (Chinese Bannerman) *ch'ijên* (Provincial graduate) of the Canton Banner garrison, and formerly district magistrate of Antunghsien, in the province

of Fêngtien; and T'eng Chia-chen, a Kiangsu *ch'ijên* and an expectant sub-prefect. We, therefore, command the Tartar General of Canton, and the Governors of Kiangsu and Shantung, to send the above-named officials, at once, to Anhui to join the staff of Fu Jun, in order that no time may be lost in commencing the resurvey of Anhui at an early date.

21st May.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) With reference to the memorial of Ekô-ta'ng-â, Tartar General and military Governor of Fêngtien, denouncing Chang Hsi-fu, the gaol-warden for Yichou sub-prefecture in the said province for carelessness and neglect of duty whereby an important criminal was permitted to effect his escape from custody, let the gaol-warden be forthwith cashiered and arrested, and let the said Tartar General try him and his subordinates to see whether any bribes had been accepted in this case, and if so let the delinquents be punished to the full extent of the law. Furthermore let strict search be made for the escaped criminal so that justice may not be deprived of its victim. As for the case of Ch'eng Hsi-hua, the sub-prefect of Yichou, under whom was the said delinquent gaol-warden, since he declares that he was not in town on the night of the said criminal's escape but absent on official duty, let the usual period be given him to effect the recapture of the refugee, failing which he is to be further dealt with according to law. Let the Boards concerned take note.

(2) Let the Shantung commoner, Chang Hung-yon, who personally applied for relief at the Palace gates, be handed to the Board of Punishment for a strict investigation into his case and report the same to us.

22nd May.

No papers of interest.

23rd May.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) On a former occasion the Censor Hu Chin-kuei denounced in a secret memorial the Chihli Taotai, Pan Chin-tê, of the Ts'ing Intendancy, on the ground of excessive avarice and conduct unbecoming to an official of his rank, etc. Mao Lung-kuang, district magistrate of Jênch'inhien, Chihli, was also denounced by the said Censor for extorting illegal and cruel fines from his people. Upon re-reading the above charges we commanded Wang Wên-shao to investigate them and his report is now before us. He states that in some instances there were grounds for the charges against P'an Chin-tê, and in some there were no foundations for them at all. In one instance, also, it was found that the said Taotai's nephew, Pan Lung-ting, who had been appointed by the Board of Civil Appointments to be an expectant assistant magistrate of Chihli, but instead of staying at the capital (Paoingfu) to await acting or substantive appointment after having reported for duty at the Treasurer's *yamen*, this nephew was retained in the Ts'ingho Taotai's *yamen* to assist the uncle in keeping accounts, which is contrary to regulation. Furthermore, the said Taotai was reprehensible for not keeping a watchful eye on the irregular conduct of his deputy Yao En-sui, and his *yamen* ushers, who took every opportunity to enrich themselves at the expense of the people. The said Taotai and his nephew are therefore turned over to the Board for adjudication of adequate penalties, while the deputy is cashiered for his avaricious conduct. As for the other men denounced by the said Censor, there having been found nothing against them they are hereby released from surveillance. The Board concerned is to take note.

(2) W'eng Ts'eng-kuei is appointed Provincial Treasurer of Kiangsi vice Ch'en Shih, deceased.

(3) On the 26th of this month all the Princes, high Ministers, and officers of the

Imperial Court who shall be on duty that day are commanded to appear at Court in full dress costume.

24th May.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) Sung Shou (Manchu) is transferred to the Provincial Judgeship of Kiangsi, vice Weng Tséng-kwei promoted to the Treasurership, and Yü Hsien (Manchu) is hereby appointed to take Sung Shou's place as Provincial Judge of Shantung.

(2) Hsi Liang (Manchu) is appointed Taotai of the Yen-yi-t'sao-chi Intendancy of Shantung, vice Yü Hsien, promoted to the Provincial Judgeship.

(3) Wang Hsi-fan is transferred to be Senior Director of Studies in the Superintendence of Instruction of the Heir-Apparent, and Li Tien-lin is appointed to be Junior Director in the same institution.

25th May.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) Ting Li-Chun is appointed prefect of Yichoufu, Shantung, vice Hsi Liang promoted to be Taotai of the Yen-yi-t'sao-chi Intendancy in the same province.

(2) Pa-ké-tan-pu, Senior Director of the Imperial Stud, etc., reports that his leave of absence is about to expire without his getting any better of his bodily complaints, and hence prays to be allowed to resign his various posts in order to better attend to his maladies. There is no present necessity of Pa-ké-tan-pu's resigning, hence we grant him another leave of absence of one month to accomplish his object.

No news of interest.

26th May.

ROBBERY AND MURDER IN ANHUI.

Fu Jun, Governor of Anhui, reports the sentences given in the case of a gang of robbers who attacked the house of one Hsü Fu-yu, a native of Yü-t'ieh-sien, Anhui province, during which the complainant's father was killed by the robbers and a quantity of valuable plunder taken away by this gang of desperadoes. They numbered ten men in all under their chief, a certain Li Pa, who is still at large. The gang was equipped with gun, sword, spear and bludgeon, and on the night of the robbery mustered in force at the house of the said Hsü Fu-yu, he being one of the richest merchants living in that district. When the robbers arrived at the gate of the said house, their chief ordered three of the gang to remain outside to receive the plunder, as well as to keep a good look-out for the military patrol of the town. He himself then accompanied by another (the lieutenant) climbed over the high wall surrounding the house and opened the entrance gates. Once entered into the compound the chief again sprang up to the top of the house (one-story) walked over the tiles and jumping down into the main courtyard, pried open the door leading into the main hall, where he opened the door to let the others in. While this was going on the noise awakened Hsü Sheng-yü (the father of the complainant), who slept in the first court and he set up a cry of alarm calling aloud for help. Li Pa (the chief) who appeared to be prepared for violence at once gave the order to the lieutenant and another "to silence the old man." The old man's noise was at once stopped and by the aid of lighted paper tapers dipped in oil, the whole gang, with the exception of the three outside the gates began to search for plunder, the remaining members of the Hsü family being terrified into perfect silence by the terrible example set before them of the murdered old man. After ransacking the house of everything portable, i.e., clothes, money, jewelry, etc., and packing them on several donkeys belonging to the house, the gang gave the signal to those outside to lead the animals while the rest covered the rear. But the

three look-out men had, upon hearing the alarm given by the murdered man, already been scared away. So the rest of the gang were forced to lead the animals themselves and by quickly marching overtook the runaways. The whole gang then went to a solitary spot where they were not liable to be interrupted and a division of plunder took place. While the robbers were thus employed a lighted taper carelessly thrown away by one of them seemed to have communicated with some combustible matter in one of the side rooms of the house, with the result that a conflagration took place, the greater portion of the house being thus destroyed. The neighbours were in this way alarmed and while helping to quell the fire, a body of the rest joined the *yamen* runners and military patrol to hunt for the robbers the same night. No one was caught then, but gradually nine of the gang were one after another captured within the period allowed the district magistrate by law for their arrest. The only man who has so far escaped capture is Li Pa, the leader of the gang. The law demands the summary execution of any members of a gang of robbers, with fire arms in their hands, who helped in plundering a place and finally to take a share of the spoils, while those who joined to make a robbery but refrained eventually from committing the deed should be sentenced one degree more lightly, viz.:—punished with 100 blows of the "heavy" bamboo and exile for three years. This last sentence has been passed upon the three look-out men, the remainder of the gang who partook in the pillage and accepted a share of the spoils being sentenced to summary execution; and they are now awaiting the pleasure of the Throne.—Rescript: Let the Board of Punishments make haste and report thereon.

27th May.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

We find that Wén Ch'í, a Secretary of the Imperial Household Department, is a man of reckless disposition and possessed of shamelessness and low conduct incompatible with the dignity of his office. He is therefore cashiered and dismissed forever from the public service.

THE DEATH OF CH'EN SHIH.

Wang Wên-shao, Viceroy of Chihli, reports the death, through sickness at Tientsin of Ch'en Shih, the Provincial Treasurer-elect of Kiangsi. The deceased officer had been in command of twenty battalions of Hunan troops at Shanhaikuan ever since the late war with Japan. Owing to illness he had been compelled to come twice to Tientsin by rail from Shanhaikuan, but the second journey to Tientsin ended fatally and memorialist regrets to report to the Throne the said official's death on the 20th of the current month (May.) Upon learning the news of Ch'en Shih's death memorialist at once issued instructions to General Yi Wên-kuang, Chief of the military secretariat of the said corps, and the second in command, General Fang Yu-sheng, to continue to pay strict attention to their duties, to the regular drills of the troops and to maintain strict discipline in the corps which had thus suddenly been bereft of their Commander-in-chief. The said generals were further ordered to quietly await the pleasure of the Throne as to what should be done with the said army corps, whether they are to remain in garrison in Shanhaikuan, sent elsewhere, or finally disbanded and sent back to their homes in Hunan. Memorialist would, therefore, pray for his Majesty's instructions in the above matter. On the other hand, as the Provincial Treasurership of Kiangsi is one of great importance which has been made vacant by Ch'en Shih's death, memorialist trusts his Majesty will not lose any time in appointing a successor to the deceased officer.—Rescript: A special decree will be issued in this connection.

28th May.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

Appointing a large number of officials to the Metropolitan and Provincial administrations.

SURVEY AND RE-ASSESSMENT OF LAND IN ANHUI.

Fu Jun, an Officer bearing the rank of brevet President of a Board and Governor of Anhui, recommends the survey and reassessment of the arable land of his province in order that the dishonesty which has been rife in this connection be swept away and the Imperial exchequer benefited thereby. The province owing to the rebellion of the Taiping, was plunged into much disorder, from which it has barely recovered, while the destruction of old documents and the archives of the various cities, including the capital, Nganking, by the rebels made it impossible to obtain an accurate knowledge of the annual land taxes of the province, and hence ever since the rebellion everything has been the result of sheer guess-work. By these means wealthy citizens and large landed proprietors have been enabled to cheat the government yearly of a large proportion of income from land revenue and it has been found that in some cases land reported to be one *mu* in extent contained more than ten times its superficial area. This arose through the destruction of the land books and archives in most of the district magistracies of Anhui province, which the gentry and landed proprietors took advantage of upon the restoration of order in the province. Their pernicious example was naturally followed by the smaller landholders and peasants, which many of the new magistrates sent to take charge after the pacification of the province dared not resent, although in many cases quite aware of the true state of affairs, fearful lest by too strict an observance of the old *régime* it would cause the people (incited by the landed gentry) to rebel again, and the blame of the rising be visited upon the heads of the said newly arrived magistrates. Hence, for more than thirty years things have gone on from bad to worse. Land formerly reported to be barren and excused by former decrees from taxes had in the meanwhile, after remaining fallow, been re-cultivated with profit to the owners thereof, who, on the other hand, refrained from reporting this increase of income to the magistrates of their district; while, again, other districts which had been visited by inundation or famine had to be either partially commuted or entirely excused from paying taxes, thereby decreasing the revenues of the province with no counter compensation, as should have been the case. In this state of things it clearly lay with memorialist, as Governor of the province, to devise means to restore the chaos which had thus arisen through the timidity and incapability of former predecessors. The principal thing to begin with is the reconstitution of the provincial land taxes in such a way as to be perfectly fair to all, thereby obviating murmurs of discontent which would surely arise in case of failure of justice. Hence, after consultation with the acting Treasurer and Judge, memorialist thinks that nothing but a thorough re-survey of the whole province should be made and a re-assessment upon the result be issued by proclamation. According to the annual returns of the land taxes of Anhui the area of arable land taxable comprises 382,140, odd, *ch'ing* (each *ch'ing* contains 100 *mu*.—*Trans.*) and the annual tribute rice for Peking valued at Tls. 1,700,000, odd. Not counting the arrears of taxes previous to 1884, taxes still due to government by the people of Anhui from 1885 to 1892, amounted to a total of Tls. 2,468,000, odd, while from the famine districts of the said province there are still due taxes equal to Tls. 2,046,000, odd, which the inhabitants of the said distressed districts have been permitted by government to pay "when

29th May.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

30th May.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

31st May.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

1st June.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

COURT CIRCULAR.

No news of interest.

Meeting.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

* Increase during month 35.

The above-mentioned dairies have been regularly visited during the past month and the cattle therein found free from disease.

JOHN CHRISTIE,
Inspector of Markets, Dairies, etc.

Bund Foreshore.—A special meeting of the Council was held on Thursday, the 30th July, at 4 p.m., to consider the Bund fore-shore question.

Amusements.

CRICKET.

SHANGHAI CRICKET CLUB.

SHANGHAI CRICKET CLUB v. SHANGHAI SWIMMING BATH CLUB.

Owing to the excessive heat on Saturday play in this match could not be commenced until after half-past four, and as a consequence there was little hope of anything but a draw. The S.C.C. began batting, and staying at the wickets for about an hour and forty minutes, in which time they made 99 for three wickets, when the innings was declared closed, they left barely three-quarters of an hour available for the Swimming Bath Club team at the wickets. In this time six wickets went down for 55 runs. Farbridge made the top score of the day with 57 not-out and although he played cautiously—perhaps a little too much so considering the fast run-getting wicket—he gave two chances.

Full score and analysis :—

S.C.C.

A. M. Reith, c. Cumming, b. Gumpert.....	0
R. C. Farbridge, not-out	57
J. K. Tweed, b. Cumming	3
J. Mann, c. Gumpert, b. Sawyer.....	22
E. D. V. Parr, not-out	13
Byes	4
.....	99

T. C. Anderson, A. J. McClure (Captain), P. K. Knyvett, W. Lambe, W. L. Richards, and H. D. Patch did not bat.

S.B.C.

E. D. Cumming, c. Farbridge, b. Mann.....	12
H. Adams, b. Mann	2
C. M. Firth, run-out	16
E. Gumpert, b. Mann.....	0
W. J. Tyack, l-b-w., b. Farbridge.....	13
P. A. Cox (Captain), not-out	6
G. A. Matthews, run-out	5
Lég-bye	1
.....	55

F. H. Sawyer, A. Hide, and N. E. Cornish did not bat.

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

S.C.C.

Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Gumpert.....	5	1	12
Cumming	8	1	14
Tyack	5	1	20
Sawyer	6	0	18
Hide	2	0	6
Firth	6	0	16
Cox	4	0	9

S.B.C.

Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Mann	10	3	21
McClure	6	2	11
Farbridge	3	0	22

SHANGHAI RECREATION CLUB.

S.R.C. v. P. & O. STRS. "MIRZAPORE," "RAVENNA," AND "FORMOSA."

This match was commenced on Saturday, the visitors taking the field shortly after 3 o'clock. The Club after scoring 155 for 8 wickets declared their innings closed. Möller made 38 in faultless style, and T. Wallace 55, when he was run out by a ball well thrown in from the long field by Manning. Wallace was let off when he had made 14, but he otherwise played sound cricket. S. M. Wallace and F. Griffin also got into double figures, making 15 and 11 respectively. The bowling and fielding

of the visitors were excellent, and when it came to their turn to bat they made the creditable score of 113 for 8 wickets, when time was called. Thomas made 36 by vigorous hitting, Biscoe 21 during the very short time he was at the wickets, Cookson 14, and Cadiz 19 not-out, no other member reaching double figures. Naylor was the most successful bowler of the day, taking 6 wickets for 36 runs. It was arranged after stumps were drawn to continue the match on Monday afternoon, commencing at 4 o'clock.

The visitors continued their first innings on Monday afternoon, the whole team being disposed of for 136 runs. With 19 runs to the good the S.R.C. opened their second innings, and in exactly an hour scored 101 for the loss of five wickets, when they declared their innings closed. The P. & O. team followed and at the call of time, a little after 7 o'clock, had lost three wickets for 58 runs. The match therefore ended in a draw. An unusual incident occurred during the afternoon; Hancock, who was batting, in dodging one of Möller's shooters somehow got his head in the way of the ball which carried his hat on to the wicket. The umpire gave Hancock not-out, stating as his reason that the batsman was not in the act of hitting when the ball knocked his hat on to the wicket. The matter gave rise to considerable discussion, many holding that the batsman was out as the ball was in play. * Below will be found the full score and analysis :—

S.R.C.

1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
G. H. Purcell, c. Cadiz, b. Cookson	2 c. Thomas b. Atkins
N. E. Möller, b. Mac-Dougall	38 b. Thomas
H. W. Row, b. Thomas	3 c. Cadiz, b. Thomas
T. Wallace, run-out	55 not-out
S. M. Wallace, run-out	15 not-out
P. J. Gillings, st. Treacher, b. Dayas	8 b. Thomas
F. Griffin, b. Dayas	11
T. Veitch, c. Thomas, b. Biscoe	0
J. B. Lamond, not-out	6 c. Biscoe, b. Atkins
A. R. Bowman, not-out	4
Extras	13
.....	155
J. Naylor did not bat.	101

P. AND O.

P. McDougall, b. Möller	2 b. Naylor
J. Aylward, b. Naylor	1
A. Thomas, b. Naylor	36 not-out
G. Cookson, b. Naylor	14 c. Purcell, b. Möller
C. Dayas, b. Naylor	0
F. Cadiz, b. Naylor	26 not-but
E. Treacher, b. Naylor	6
R. Manning, b. Möller	5
R. Biscoe, run-out	21
T. Atkins, c. T. Wallace, b. Naylor	1
G. C. Hancock, not-out	7 c. Veitch, b. Möller
Extras	17
.....	136
.....	58

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

SHANGHAI RECREATION CLUB.

First Innings.

Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Thomas	11	2	39
Cookson	4	0	16
Biscoe	13	0	45
McDougall	9	4	17
Dayas	9	2	25

Second Innings.

Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Thomas	10	0	36
Atkins	9	0	30
Cookson	5	0	15
McDougall	3	0	9
Biscoe	3	1	10

P. AND O.

First Innings.

Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Möller	13	1	37
Naylor	17	6	46
S. M. Wallace	5	0	27
T. Wallace	4	0	2

Second Innings.

Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Möller	7	3	12
Naylor	8	0	29
Griffin	4	0	14
T. Wallace	3	1	2

* By Law 25 the striker is out "if in playing at the ball he hit down his wicket with his bat or any part of his person or dress :— 'hit wicket.'"

SHANGHAI YACHT CLUB.

The course for last Saturday's Regatta was down river to Kajao Creek and back, (about sixteen miles) the start and finish being across an imaginary line between the Yuenfuh and the Customs Signal Station. The contestants were the *Lorna*, the *Violet*, and the *Lamb*, and in the order named they crossed the line within a few seconds after gun fire at 2 p.m., the *Lorna* leading the *Violet* about eighty yards. The wind was light from the westward, and going nearly before it with spinnakers set, the two yachts maintained their relative positions with little variation over the greater part of the course to the stake-boat. The *Lamb*, hopelessly outclassed, kept dropping astern, and was soon out of the race. The sun was blazing, and as the yachts aided by the ebb tide slipped along nearly as fast as the wind, the heat was intense, and would have been disheartening but for the excitement attendant upon the close proximity of the two competitors, and the constant striving to make the most of the cat's paws that occasionally ruffled the surface of the river. As the race progressed the wind hauled southerly, so that in the reach below Collier's Dock, the yachts were still running before it with spinnakers set, and the tide turned flood. When below Half-way Point the *Violet* ranged alongside of the *Lorna*, and maintained her position for some time. The wind then hauled a little westerly, and the *Lorna*, being to windward and having apparently more breeze, gradually drew ahead, increasing her lead until the stake boat was rounded as follows :—

<i>Lorna</i>	3h. 59m. 00s.
<i>Violet</i>	3h. 01m. 33s.

In the beat to windward that followed, honours were divided. With a favouring tide there was a good working breeze, and both yachts made good progress, the *Lorna* at first working away from the *Violet*, and then coming back to her, but having broken tacks it was impossible to tell how one or the other was favoured by wind or current. In the Lower Reach after passing the Chinese Gardens, the yachts were able to lay a course close-hauled along the Hongkew shore, the *Lorna* being about a hundred yards abeam and to windward of the *Violet*. These positions were maintained until near the Waterworks, where the slight bend in the river altered the course making the wind a little free, and with sheets eased off, and the weather position, the *Lorna* gradually drew away from the *Violet*. Off Pootung Point the wind was again ahead, and both yachts had to make two tacks to cross the line, the times being as follows :—

<i>Lorna</i>	5h. 28m. 51s.
<i>Violet</i>	5h. 30m. 12s.

The performance of the *Lorna* thus far is very creditable, she having won three of the four races in which she competed. The *Spondrift* too is wonderfully improved, and the *Coronella* was designed by Watson to beat the *Violet*, whose reputation for speed and handiness in all weathers is well established. It must be satisfactory to

the able skipper and owner of the latter to have a strong element of uncertainty infused into this season's regattas, that heretofore has been wanting, the four yachts named being so evenly matched that it will be very difficult in the majority of races to predict the winner.

DINGY RACE.

The course selected was start over the usual imaginary line between the *Yuenfah* and the signal station at Pootung, sail up river, round the German Mail buoy, round a stake-boat moored off the Point and return, finishing over the starting line.

The boats started as follows:—

	h.	m.	s.
<i>Tadpole</i>	3	05	23
<i>Glance</i>	3	05	27
<i>Snippet</i>	3	05	45
<i>Mudlark</i>	3	06	20
<i>Picnic</i>	3	06	35
<i>Coral</i>	2	08	40

The water was smooth with a light southerly breeze blowing. In the reach to the German mail buoy the *Glance* passed the *Tadpole*, and the *Mudlark* gybed round the buoy just ahead of the *Snippet*, the other boats maintaining their respective positions. In the run down to the stake-boat the three leaders draw away from the rest of the fleet, the *Tadpole* again taking the lead. After passing the old Japanese godowns at Pootung the *Tadpole* and *Carol* stood over towards the Hongkew shore in the direction of the Point, but the *Tadpole* suddenly discovered that by mistake the stake-boat had taken up a position off Boyd's dock, and she lost the premier place in consequence, while the *Glance* which had kept her course on the Pootung side of the river again took first place and rounded at 4h. 7m., the remaining boats rounding as follows:—

	h.	m.	s.
<i>Tadpole</i>	4	08	00
<i>Picnic</i>	4	12	00
<i>Mudlark</i>	4	17	00
<i>Snippet</i>	4	27	00

The *Carol* gave up the race. In the beat home *Picnic* and *Mudlark* improved their positions slightly by keeping to the Pootung side of the river, and the boats crossed the finishing line as follows:—

	h.	m.	s.
<i>Glance</i>	4	38	57
<i>Picnic</i>	4	40	11
<i>Tadpole</i>	4	44	45
<i>Mudlark</i>	4	49	00

Correspondence.

LEGE ALITERAM PARTEM.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—We have read in your paper several able leaders on the misdoings of the Chartered Company of South Africa, mostly reviews of articles in the *Investors' Review*, the *Saturday Review*, and possibly *Truth* (?) In them no one good word has been spoken of the man who has kept so large a portion of South Africa British.

Will you allow me to direct attention to an able article by "Imperialist" in the June *Fortnightly* on the other side, one of many in our leading monthlies?

I am, etc.,

W.

1st August.

A NICE POINT IN CRICKET.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Re the decision in the case of Hancock's hat having knocked off the bails in the match on Monday, allow me to state the exact facts of the case, as the occurrence is unique in my experience of cricket and may be of interest to your readers.

Your contributor in his report of the match says that Hancock "in dodging one of Möller's shooters (the italics are mine) somehow got his head in the way of the ball," from which an old cricketer after much puzzling might perhaps infer that Hancock was standing on his head!

As a matter of fact the ground was very lively. Möller would only have been too glad if he could have got in a shooter or two, but every ball rose high, and the particular one in question got up so abruptly and so fast that the batsman's one idea was to save his head. He was successful in this, but his hard sun hat was taken off and fell upon the wicket.

As he had made no attempt whatever to play the ball, I hold that my decision—"not-out"—was sound, and in accordance with Law 25, which you quote.

I am, etc.,

THE UMPIRE.

4th August.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Referring to the Umpire's letter in your issue of to-day giving his reasons for a decision of "not-out" in the case of Hancock, I must say that he is entirely wrong. Under no circumstances after the ball has been delivered by the bowler, except in the case of a "no-ball," can the batsman be entitled to defend anything but his wicket. If he unfortunately has to shield his head at the same time, he must take all risks. The very fact of his defending himself at all, is the proof that he is playing the ball.

The incident in question, is, of course, a very rare one, but at the same time it is as well that future Umpires should understand the rule clearly.

I am, etc.,

R. C. FARBRIDGE.

P.S.—If there is still any doubt on the point, I shall be glad to refer the matter to the *Field*.

5th August.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Mr. Farbridge's opinion on cricket is entitled to much respect, but with all due allowance for this, he has so worded his letter as to give the impression that the verbal nicety of the question has not yet been brought home to him. He somewhat loosely denies the batsman the right to do "ad" "anything but his wicket"—not even his legs apparently—and he expresses a quite unnecessary sympathy with the player who has to defend his wicket and his head from the self-same ball, which might indeed happen among dwarfs but not with men of Mr. Farbridge's stature. Still these are mere slips of the pen. The sentence which begs the whole question as it exhibits itself to me is this:—"The very fact of his (Hancock's) defending himself at all is the proof that he is playing the ball,"—on which I would remark that Hancock's defence was of the discretionary type so constantly exhibited by the Chinese troops in the late war. It consisted in doing his utmost to get out of the way.

But lastly (and I promise not to intrude further on your space) the point of the whole question hinges on the Cricket definition of the expression "playing at the ball."

Now I take it that ninety-nine cricketers out of a hundred would define "play" roughly as follows:—

To play.—To make with the bat a stroke at the ball, with the intention (1) of defending the wicket, and/or (2) of making runs.

That Hancock in ducking his head to a fast ball a yard or so higher than his stumps had no necessity for the one, and no hope of the other, was evident both to the bowler and myself, and unless my definition be wrong, which is possible, I fail to see how the decision could have been other than it was.

I shall be very pleased to have the matter referred to *The Field*, as, in an experience of some thirty years, I have never before heard the point raised.

I am, etc.,

THE UMPIRE.

6th August.

A PROPER PROCLAMATION.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I send enclosed a copy of a proclamation issued to suppress the evil reports that have been circulated here of late concerning foreigners. I think it only just that the good the mandarins do us should have as wide circulation as the evil they sometimes do.

I therefore hope you will be able to find room in your valuable paper for a translation of the proclamation.

I am, etc.,

JOSEPH BAILIE.

(Translation.)

A special proclamation by Hsiang, an official of the blue brevet button, expectant sub-prefect, specially assigned to the district magistracy of Hsinghuo, and acting magistrate, of the district of Wuhsien (Soochow city).

The missionaries of various countries who come to China to teach their doctrines, to establish free schools and hospitals, do so really for the purpose of exhorting people to be good, and therefore are of benefit to the world at large. The people and the converts of the missionaries have been on mutual terms of harmony for a long time [in Soochow] but I have heard that there is a class of rowdies from other districts who have come to our city and disseminated rumours [against missionaries] for the purpose of creating suspicion and distrust amongst the ignorant (illiterate) inhabitants, and this, in truth, is specially against the laws and liable to punishment. While, on the one hand, I have given instructions to my runners and the *tipstos* to make secret arrests and bring the culprits to me for punishment, I, on the other hand, do hereby proclaim all and every condition of the people to keep peaceably to your several avocations. Of course there are not wanting amongst you people who are intelligent and so reasonable as to know the actual state of matters, but lest there be others who are ignorant amongst the people who may be wrongfully influenced [by these rowdies] thereby causing suspicion and distrust to arise [against the missionaries] it is to this latter class that this proclamation is specially addressed that they should look upon [and treat] foreigners as they would treat their own people, and that each individual should make it his duty to live in harmony with all, thereby supplementing the good will of the Emperor and the government towards those from distant countries, and finally, that each one should do his best to afford mutual protection and help [to the missionaries]. Let no one be evilly influenced by the many false rumours spread about to create disturbances, to the detriment of themselves, which will give them cause for repentance, but let each one carefully obey this special proclamation.

P.S.—At the time of the Kongyen disturbances there were proclamations posted all around here denouncing any evil reports and threatening condign punishment to any one convicted of fabricating the same. Soochow, 3rd August.

HOW IT SOUNDS IN COREA.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—The disclosures in your issue of the 20th instant regarding the behaviour of the Japanese in Formosa have, of course, been of interest to all foreigners in Corea. Having for years—before, during, and after the war—seen the brutality with which the poor, inoffensive Coreans were treated by these self-invited, unwelcome guests, these disclosures are not surprises for us here.

That the Japanese can slaughter poor people with bayonets and Murata rifles, and devastate the land far and wide even more quickly perhaps than they could in the brave old days of Hideyoshi, is another proof of "the marvellous progress and development of the Japanese during the last thirty years."

I think everyone here was rather taken aback when you in your leader told us: "The failure of the Japanese in Corea was excusable, as we have said already, because they were in a false position."

I must say I never understood before from your way of writing, that the self-assumed, incompetent, arrogant, bullying, odious, cut-throat policy to which Corea, its king, queen and people have been subjected during the Japanese "reign of terror," was regarded as "excusable."

Permit me to propose a slight alteration and addition in the wording of your sentence in order to bring it near the truth. "The failure of the Japanese in Corea was inexcusable. They were in a false position of their own make and seeking, aggravated by their incompetence, conceit, want of tact, and cruelty."

It is quite certain that had Corea not happened, luckily for her, to be within the sphere of influence of a Christian Great Power with authority and will to use it, then the cut-throat policy in Corea would speedily have developed into the same state of wholesale murder and devastation as now in Formosa.

It is regrettable that Formosa is not within the sphere of influence of any Christian Great Power of any kind with authority and will to use it.

However "what cannot be cured must be endured," so no use bothering about this but proceed, undisturbed, collecting contributions to the Relief Fund for the sufferers from the Tidal Wave in Japan, as well as the distressed Armenians, etc.

I am, etc.,

HERMIT.

Corea, 27th July.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Diseases of the skin.—No case of disease of the skin, be its nature what it may, has failed to be benefited when these potent remedies have been properly applied. In scrofulous and scorbutic affections they are especially serviceable. Scurvy and eruptions, which had resisted all other modes of treatment and gradually become worse from year to year, have been completely cured by Holloway's cooling Ointment and purifying Pills, which root out the disease from the blood itself and leave the constitution free from every morbid taint. In the nursery Holloway's Ointment should be ever at hand; it will give ease in eruptions, contusions, burns, scalds, and infantile eruptions, and may always safely be applied by any ordinary attendant. 42

Miscellaneous.

FATAL BOATING ACCIDENT.

A sad fatality occurred on the Soochow Creek last evening. Messrs. A. Bauerfeind and W. Staats obtained single scullers from the Upper Boathouse and proceeded for a row on the Creek. After going some little distance up the Creek, Mr. Staats, who was behind, heard cries and turning round saw that Mr. Bauerfeind's skiff had capsized, and that the unfortunate gentleman, who was unable to swim, was struggling in the water. Mr. Staats at once jumped overboard and swam to his assistance, but before he could reach the spot Mr. Bauerfeind sank. Mr. Staats dived several times, but without success, and was obliged to give up the attempt to save Mr. Bauerfeind's life or recover his body. The police at Carter Road Station were at once informed and instituted a search for the body, but up to a late hour last evening it had not been found.

FROM CANTON TO CHUNGKING OVERLAND.

Mr. W. F. Wenyon, of Hongkong, has just passed through Shanghai, having accomplished an important journey starting from Canton through the provinces of Kuangtung, Kuangsi, Hunan and Hupeh to Chungking in Szechuan. The journey occupied close upon three months, from the 16th of April to the 10th of July. Mr. Wenyon during the greater part of the time being accompanied by Mr. Cowen, who represented the *Times*. Leaving Canton they took boat to Wuchow, up the West River. There they changed boats and proceeded to Kueilin, thence travelling overland to Chinchou, on the southern borders of Hunan. Boats were again resorted to and by easy stages, and not always by the most direct route, the travellers reached Yohchou, on the Yangtze, and close to the Tungting Lake. At Yohchou Mr. Wenyon parted with Mr. Cowen and travelled by steamer to Ichang, then going overland to Chungking. Regarding the behaviour of the people, Mr. Wenyon thinks the ferocity of the Hunanese has been very greatly exaggerated; the people of Kuangtung, where they have seen as little of the foreigner are far more aggressively hostile than the Hunanese. Mr. Wenyon speaks the language with fluency and has travelled extensively in China, and in his opinion there is more curiosity about the Hunanese than any people he has been amongst. Of course during their wanderings the travellers were hampered with the usual "guards" of braves, and like many others they found that the assistance derivable from the soldiers was very little, whilst the trouble they caused with the people was considerable. It was only by the exercise of great tact that serious trouble was several times averted, and Mr. Wenyon believes that unless the utmost caution is exercised travelling in Hunan is decidedly hazardous. Questioned as to the commercial possibilities of the country traversed by him Mr. Wenyon was not very enthusiastic as to the prospects of the West River route. Between Wuchowfu and Kueilin there are no fewer than 360 rapids, and he strongly inclines to the belief that the country will be better reached by the Yangtze route. The trade crossing the Tungting Lake is enormous, and if a line of steamers could ply from Hankow to Changsha an inestimable boon would be conferred upon that region, for, like most inland waters the Tungting Lake is subject to sudden and severe storms, and the least sign of suspicious weather is enough to stop traffic for days. Hunan, in Mr. Wenyon's opinion, is very rich in

mineral resources, notably anthracite coal, and of the prospects of the new treaty port of Shashi he is very sanguine, believing it greatly superior to Ichang.

THE JAPANESE IN FORMOSA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Apologos of Japanese doings in Formosa, the following extracts tend to throw some light upon how the present state of affairs was brought about, also how the oracle is being worked that only a Japanese gloss may be put before the world. The *Osaka Mainichi* says:—"General Katsura, the new Governor-General of Formosa, in the course of conversation with a friend at Nagoya the other day, stated that he was not going back to Formosa, as reported in the Tokio press, on account of the recent rising in the island. His return to his post did not necessarily follow as a matter of course consequent on the rising of the rebels in the vicinity of Unrin, which had been already anticipated at the time he had visited the island with the Premier. Preparations were then being made, and he left instructions to deal severely with the rebels. But at that time the rowdies were in scattered, isolated groups, offering no chance for crushing them. He received news of a conflict at Nagasaki on his way home. The inhabitants of Unrin were a very turbulent class, and it was quite natural that the insurrection should break out there. Risings might also break out at various other localities. At the time of the Revolution in Japan many minor insurrections broke out. We must be prepared to see fresh outbreaks of insurrection in Formosa continue for ten years to come. As these nefarious renegades and outlaws of Formosa could never well be brought to submit to the Japanese authorities by any milder means, the only course left for dealing with them was to gradually accomplish slaughter in detail. The savages could be more easily brought to submission than the seditious disband Chinese soldiers, as they have not been influenced by Chinese sentiments, but rather have always hated the Chinese intensely." From this it is evident, to use General Katsura's own words, that "the rising of the rebels in the vicinity of Unrin had been already anticipated. Preparations were being made and he left instructions to deal severely with the rebels—the only course left for dealing with them was to gradually accomplish slaughter in detail." The anticipated rebels have been made to order, and General Katsura's programme was being carried out to the letter, as the correspondence from South Formosa fully demonstrates, but the so-called rebels, or as is stated, peaceful villagers, have demurred to being "slaughtered in detail," and if Chinese reports from the North of the island are to be believed, a decided check has been given to the invaders, in the fall of Changhua, and the loss of 1,000 of their forces. The following extract is from the *Hongkong Telegraph*—

Amoy, 23rd July.

A steamer just in from Taiwanfoo has brought the news that reinforcements of Japanese troops from Kelung arrived at Anping on the 10th and were promptly landed and sent to the front, near Hoonim and Chipchip. The insurgents were found in force on the 18th instant in a valley to the north of Chipchip, near Taipinging, their headquarters. A desperate conflict ensued and resulted in a victory for the Japanese who pursued the enemy into the mountains and occupied Taipinging. Owing to this victory the Japanese were able to restore communication between the camphor districts—where the rebellion first broke out—and their base at Taiwanfoo.

The country lying between the camphor districts and Taiwanfoo is now clear of rebels, and as soon as reinforcements arrive from Hiroshima the rebels will be followed

up. In the meantime the troops will probably remain on the defensive, and give protection to merchants carrying on business in the districts from which the rebels have now been driven out.

It is not difficult to guess from what source this emanates, and the insertion of it is suggestive, in the face of what must be well-known facts. In the first place, no steamer arrived from Taiwanfoo on the 23rd, but the *Thales*, the only regular steamer trading between Amoy and that port (during the S.W. monsoon), left Amoy for Taiwanfoo on the evening of that day, but the papers from Hongkong arrived on about that date containing the letters, detailing the barbarous proceedings of the Japanese—*Hinc ille lacrimæ*. Again, if any troops did arrive at Amoy from Kelung on the 10th, it was simply impossible for them to land at all, much less promptly, on account of the heavy surf on the bar. It is strange, that not one correspondent has put on record the arrival and landing of the Japanese troops, yet they have mentioned the drowning of 50 or 60 passengers from the *Thales* in attempting to land when the bar was comparatively smooth.

The gist of the telegram lies in the clauses, "and as soon as reinforcements arrive from Hiroshima the rebels will be followed up"—i.e., the slaughter in detail of peaceful country people would be gradually accomplished, to use General Katsura's own words. "In the meantime the troops will probably remain on the defensive." What has become of "the reinforcements from Kelung, who were promptly landed and sent to the front, near Hoonim and Chipchip?" And how about the desperate conflict, ending in a victory for the Japanese, "who pursued the enemy into the mountains and occupied Taipingting?" The truth is that the Japanese have met with a serious check, and are looking anxiously for reinforcements from Hiroshima, and until they arrive, and are able to land, they can do nothing but try and keep their heads on their shoulders.

The sender of the telegram probably received his inspiration from Tokio telegrams and relied upon the ignorance or indifference of the world at large, to let his statements be passed unchallenged, and Japanese gloss or lacquer be accepted for the real facts of the case. The treatment the Japanese gave the Koreans, they are repeating in Formosa. Any passenger from Shanghai to Chemulpo, if even he never leaves the steamer, can certify to the truth of what has been said if he notes the conduct of the Japanese *sendo* towards the unfortunate lamb-like native boatman, who is beaten with boat-stretchers and dares not remonstrate, in his own country, and in the presence of a policeman of his nationality who cannot interfere.

Japan has only the gloss of civilisation, and the old blood will out; "a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump," but it takes time to leaven it. The people have been granted certain franchise privileges, but the history of the prorogation of parliament after parliament, shows how much they are unfit for representative government. The little leaven lies in the higher comparative intelligence of some of their Ministers, whose only hope for tenure of power lies, in diverting public thought from home affairs to filibustering abroad. They have been shown the writing on the wall in Corea, and in their conduct in Formosa they should always have before them: "*Mene, mene, tekel, upharsin.*" The *Thales* is not yet back from Taiwanfoo, and the *Wenchow* is said to be waiting at the Pescadores for fine weather.

Amoy, 28th July.

TENGCHOUFU REVISITED. (FROM OUR CHINANFU CORRESPONDENT.)

THE COLLEGE.

After an interval of nearly five years, your correspondent is revisiting this ancient city and is greatly interested in noting the signs of progress, especially in a missionary way. Within the past two years the buildings of the Têngchoufu College, an institution which stands in the very front rank among the higher colleges of China, have been in large measure rebuilt and enlarged, great improvements having been made in the facilities for housing and instructing the students. They now have room for about one hundred and twenty boys, the dormitories being plain one-storey Chinese houses built in rows fronting the south, so as to get the benefit of the sun in winter. In many of the rooms steam heat has been introduced so that the chill can be taken off the rooms in cold weather before the boys retire at night. The principal college building is two stories in height, heated by steam throughout, and lighted by electricity. It contains two large schoolrooms, capable of seating forty or fifty boys each, two large rooms for apparatus, and five or six recitation rooms. To the north of the main building is the heating and lighting plant, consisting of a six-horse-power steam engine for running the dynamos, steam being at the same time furnished for heating purposes, two dynamos, one for running an arc light, and the other for operating the incandescent lamps used in the school-rooms and elsewhere. Besides these there are in the same building several bath-rooms with hot and cold water, wash-room, and Chinese kettles for heating water in warm weather, when the heating apparatus is not running. Still farther to the north is another one-storey building in which are a reading room and chemical laboratory. Besides these new buildings there are in addition an astronomical observatory with a very good ten-inch reflecting telescope, kitchens, dining rooms, chapel, etc.

THE LATEST ADDITION

to the equipment of the college is a museum and lecture hall, 70 by 25 feet, intended more especially to be devoted to attracting the better class of Chinese to see foreign appliances and listen to lectures on scientific subjects. The present foreign teaching force in the college consists of the Rev. Dr. Mateer and Mrs. Mateer, both of whom have put the best years of their lives into the development of the institution, the Rev. Watson M. Hayes, who has been connected with the institution for fourteen years, Mr. Hayes having lately been elected President in place of Dr. Mateer, who resigned because of pressure of other duties, and the Rev. and Mrs. Irwin, who have been in the country only about two years.

THE GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL,

in connection with the American Presbyterian Mission, has also been putting up some new buildings and there are now 32 girls in training there under the care of Miss Snodgrass and Miss Miller.

THE DISPENSARY.

During the past five years there has been a marked increase in the attendance of patients at the dispensary, now in charge of Dr. Seymour. In former years there was a yearly total of only about 4,000 patients, but last year there were, I believe, between seven and eight thousand, and this year the number bids fair to be still larger, the attendance some days being over eighty. Besides these institutions, all of which are under the care of the Presbyterian Board, there is

A GIRLS' SCHOOL

of nearly forty pupils under the care of Mrs. Hartwell and a flourishing Boys' Day School under the supervision of the Rev. Dr. Hartwell, but supported by an endowment, given by a former member of Dr. Hartwell's church,

a successful business man in Tientsin. Dr. Hartwell was the pioneer in mission work in Têngchoufu, having come here early in the sixties. Owing to the ill health of his wife he was, however, compelled to return after some years to America, where he remained for some nineteen years, most of the time engaged in mission work among the Chinese in San Francisco. Finally in 1893 he returned to take up again the interrupted thread of his life in Têngchoufu, much to the delight of his old friends, and former church members. Dr. and Mrs. Hartwell, their daughter, and Miss Moon are all members of the Southern Baptist Mission.

24th July.

THE CATASTROPHE IN JAPAN.

THE RELIEF FUND IN SHANGHAI.

Contributions already acknowledged. \$4,746	
Claude W. Kinder.....	100
Robert Agnew.....	3
Archd. Shearer.....	2
J. J. Clements.....	2
W. Pearce.....	1
F. A. Morgan.....	15

Total.....\$4,869

The \$7 received from Mr. Daniel T. Robertson were for the Armenian, not the Japan Relief Fund, and the total of the latter fund as last given should have been \$4,746.

We will gratefully receive and acknowledge any further contributions.

ANOTHER TIDAL WAVE.

The local mandarins received on Friday night despatches from the Assistant Salt Comptroller at Haichou, on the north-eastern coast of this province, to the effect that after a heavy spell of rain and wind that sub-prefecture was on Sunday last visited by a huge tidal wave, nearly five miles in width, which swept away a number of villages on the seashore occasioning a loss of life estimated, at the present moment, at about four thousand. A very large number of cattle are also reported lost. The rice fields further inland have been inundated and a famine is feared in the autumn.

THE TYPHOON IN HONGKONG.

On Tuesday afternoon the Observatory gave warning of an approaching typhoon, the red drum, signifying a typhoon to the eastward at a distance of more than three hundred miles, being hoisted. At 8.45 a.m. yesterday the black drum was hoisted, indicating that the disturbance had approached within the three hundred miles limit, and at 9.5 the gun was fired one round signifying that a strong gale might be expected. At 10.30 a.m. the black south cone was hoisted and at that time the centre of the typhoon was according to the Observatory notice, about 250 miles to the S.W. of the colony, moving towards the W.N.W. The steamers in harbour began at an early hour to seek places of safety in Kowloon Bay and behind Stonecutter's and by midday the harbour was almost deserted. The wind and sea gradually increased and at four o'clock the Kowloon ferry boats ceased running, leaving several Kowloon residents on this side, a very uncomfortable position for family men, who were thus rendered unable to look after the safety of their households. By five o'clock the wind was approaching typhoon force and at eight minutes past six two rounds were fired by the Observatory gun, the signal that the storm was expected to pass over the colony. Early in the afternoon the dressing

rooms of the Victoria Recreation Club were blown away and probably this morning there will be little of the bath itself to be seen. About two o'clock four cargo boats engaged on the Praya Reclamation were wrecked on the wall, but fortunately without loss of life. It is reported also that while a cargo boat was being towed by a launch to Kowloon about two o'clock, it capsized, but all on board are said to have been rescued by the launch. Communication with the Observatory was interrupted early in the afternoon, the land line connecting with the cable being broken. At night the streets were left in darkness, the electric light not working. Telephonic communication was also to a large extent interrupted by the breaking of the lines. Messrs. Falconer and Co.'s barometer read 29.50 at 9 a.m., 29.42 at 1 p.m., and 29.28 at 4 p.m. The storm seemed to reach its maximum between half-past ten and eleven, when the wind, which had worked round towards the south-east, was blowing furiously. About that time, however, the barometer began to rise a little. At ten o'clock the reading was 29, but by twelve o'clock it had risen to 29.25. It is to be feared that there will be a long tale of damage this morning, but of what took place after dark we are at present unable to give any detailed account.

Much anxiety is felt concerning the light-keepers at Gap Rock. They reported at three o'clock that the barometer had fallen to 29 and that the rock was then awash, and at nine o'clock another message was received giving the reading as 28.69.

H.M.S. *Grafton*, Admiral Oxley's flagship, was under orders to leave for Japan yesterday and in the course of the morning she steamed out, but presumably it was with the intention of taking shelter in Junk Bay or other safe anchorage, and not with that of proceeding on her voyage in face of the threatening state of the weather. —*Daily Press*, 30th July.

THE TYPHOON OF THE 22ND AND 23RD JULY.

The *Peking* and *Tientsin Times* prints the following extracts from the logs of three Shanghai-Tientsin liners:—

S.S. "LIENSHING."

22nd July, 1896.

10.30 a.m.—Left Shanghai. Rainy weather and northerly wind. Barometer steady, 29.56.

2.30 p.m.—Passed Tungsha lightship.

4.00 p.m.—Strong N.E. gale and high sea. Barometer falling.

8.00 p.m.—Sea rising rapidly and wind increasing in violence. Weather getting too thick to run back to the river. Approximate position, the Amherst Rocks bearing North 5 miles. Barometer falling rapidly; soundings 8 fathoms.

Midnight.—Furious gale and tremendous sea. Wind N.E., and sea easterly; steering in an easterly direction throughout to head the seas and gain deeper water. Filled main ballast tank. Soundings 11 fathoms. Barometer falling fast and steamer drifting to southward.

23rd July, 1896.

4.00 a.m.—Barometer still falling rapidly and gale blowing harder, with mountainous seas. Wind N.E.; steamer holding her own and gaining slightly. Soundings 12 fathoms.

5.00 a.m.—In the centre of the storm, nearly calm. Barometer at lowest reading. Light easterly wind and mountainous sea.

5.15 a.m.—Furious gale from S.E. and then quickly shifting to the S.S.W. Barometer rising very rapidly; tremendous confused short sea. Kept away to E.S.E.

5.30 a.m.—Shipped two heavy seas; damage sustained very slight.

6.00 a.m.—Blowing harder than ever in frequent thick gusts. Very thick weather and the seas tremendously high and very short.

8.00 a.m.—Inclined to moderate slightly, but sea still very high. Barometer rising rapidly. Blowing a strong S.S.W. gale.

10.30 a.m.—Approximate position, Amherst Rocks bearing N.W., distant about 24 miles. Soundings 14 fathoms. Barometer rising rapidly. Watched chance and brought ship before the wind and steered N. 3° E. for N.E. Promontory.

Noon.—Fresh S.S.W. gale. Heavy following sea and constant rain.

BAROMETER READINGS.

22nd July.	23rd July.
Noon.—29.50	1.00 a.m.—28.80
4.00 a.m.—29.34	2.00 a.m.—28.40
8.00 p.m.—29.27	3.00 a.m.—28.10
10.00 p.m.—29.22	4.00 a.m.—28.03
11.00 p.m.—29.15	5.00 a.m.—27.91
Midnight.—29.01	8.00 a.m.—28.90
	Noon.—29.26

S.S. "SHENGKING."

On Wednesday, 22nd July, at 9.30 a.m., cast off from Wharf at Shanghai, and at 1.45 p.m., anchored six miles inside the Tungsha light-vessel. Every appearance of a typhoon approaching. At midnight it was blowing a fresh gale from the N.E., Barometer rapidly falling and registering 29.19, and falling at the rate of one tenth per hour until 6 a.m., on Thursday, the 23rd, when it was at its lowest reading, namely 28.54. As the barometer fell the wind increased to hurricane force, and with terrible squalls accompanied by heavy rain. At 7 a.m., the wind came from the opposite direction, S.W., increasing from a moderate to a fresh gale with heavy rain squalls, and barometer rising rapidly. At noon gale moderated, with barometer registering 29.22 and rising.

On the 24th of July, at 0.45 a.m., weighed anchor and at 1 a.m. passed the Tungsha light-vessel, and Shawshean Island was passed at 3.37 a.m.

At 7 a.m. sighted a dismantled junk flying signals of distress. Steamed towards her and sent a boat in charge of the Chief Officer, who brought the junk captain on board. He stated that he was from Foochow to Chefoo, with a cargo of poles and paper, and that he had been caught in a typhoon, and lost five men, his masts, sails and rudder and all his deck load of poles, and had jettisoned part of his cargo, and (lost) all his fresh water. Agreed to tow him if possible to Chefoo, and at 1.30 p.m., after a deal of labour, got a steel hawser fast to him, and commenced towing; at 3.30 p.m. had to stop for adjustment of tow-line, and by this time the wind had freshened from E.S.E., with a high and confused sea: the junk making very bad weather of it and strained the tow-line heavily and also our after bitts. At 4.45 p.m., the tow-line carried away, we then found it impossible to tow in such weather. It was getting hazy and there was every appearance of more wind, with night coming on, and the junk not having sufficient ground tackle to hold her, the captain and crew decided to abandon her. Sent a life boat with the chief officer in charge, who brought the crew off, twenty-eight in all, some of them being supercargoes or passengers. The derelict being right in the track of shipping bound to and from the Gulf of Pechili, deemed it best for the safety of shipping to destroy it by setting it on fire, and at 8.55 p.m. steamed off for Chefoo.

On Saturday, 25th July, at 3 a.m., a dense fog set in which continued till Sunday night at 8 p.m. Anchored in 11 fathoms, off Chefoo.

On Monday the 27th July, at 5.45 a.m., the weather cleared a little, so weighed anchor and entered Chefoo harbour, all safe and well.

S.S. "HSIN-CHI."

July 23rd.—Left Shanghai. Typhoon passing to the eastward: anchored at Little Kiutoan Beacon. Barometer 28.58.

July 24th.—Proceeded to sea: heavy swell, strong S. E. wind. Forty miles North of Shawshean saw s.s. *Shengkung* towing dismantled junk towards Shanghai. Fog shut down at noon and continued until we passed Eddy Island.

July 25th.—6.10 a.m., heard calls for succour from our port side, searched for the source of them and found a junk (rice junk), with sails split but otherwise intact, wanting to be towed to Woosung. Offered the captain to tow his vessel to Chefoo, but he refused; proposed to take off all the people, but they declined to leave; consequently, seeing that the sails only required mending, we left him.

July 26th.—Twelve miles N.W. of Eddy Island passed through a mass of about thirty sheep, and two (one roan, one white) ponies, which had evidently been in the water some time, as they were much swollen. Arrived at Chefoo at 1.00 p.m., and left at 3.30. Arrived at Taku Bar at 10 a.m., 27th: weather variable.

THE LOSS OF H.I.G.M.S. *ILTIS*.

THE CUSTOMS CRUISER *DOLPHIN* REPORTED MISSING.

We take the following from the *Peking* and *Tientsin Times* of the 1st inst.:—

On Thursday last the sad news reached us of the total wreck of the *Ilitis* on the S.E. Promontory, and of the loss of seventy-seven lives out of a crew of eighty-eight.

From information we have been able to gather, the ill-fated vessel appears to have left Chefoo under sealed orders (supposed to be Kiaochow Bay), on Wednesday or Thursday week, and in all probability was caught by the typhoon when rounding the Promontory in making for the Bay in question. The eleven rescued men were picked up by the lighthouse keeper and taken on shore, during which time the ship broke in two and sank in deep water.

The Customs cruiser *Dolphin* left Chefoo about the same time as the *Ilitis* with stores, etc., for the N.E. Promontory Lighthouse and, up to going to press, has not been heard of. She carries a crew of one foreigner and five or six natives. Grave fears are entertained for their safety.

MR. G. W. NOËL AND THE INTERVIEWERS.

On his homeward journey Mr. George W. Noël encountered the interviewer in San Francisco, and recent exchanges to hand purport to give what was elicited from him. It is obvious that he has been misrepresented on several points. The *Examiner*, under the heading of "George W. Noël on the Progress of Cotton Manufactures in China," says:—

George W. Noël, one of the leading financiers and stockbrokers of Shanghai, is at the Palace en route to London. He thinks business conditions in Hongkong and Shanghai are now in a particularly thriving state. Since the war with Japan, he says, banking and other commercial securities in China have increased wonderfully in value. He instances the shares of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, which he asserts, have increased from a premium of 75 per cent to 185 per cent. In his opinion the war showed the Chinese the necessity for railroads in order to move troops quickly from place to place. For this reason prejudice against railroads is fast disappearing in and around the big towns. He thought it absolutely certain now that the Chinese themselves would build immediately main

lines of road from Peking to Hankow, the great tea port on the Yangtze-kiang, and from Hankow to Canton.

"Shanghai is soon to have five big cotton mills," he continued. "You know before the late war Europeans could import goods into but not use machinery in China. After the war Japan's treaty with China specified that they could do so. Hence the five mills now being erected at Shanghai. One of them will be controlled by Germans. The American Trading Company will control another, and British and Chinese capital the other three. The Chinese themselves have had for some time about 140,000 spindles in operation. The five new mills will increase the number to 350,000. Women and children are mostly employed, at a daily wage of 10 cents in silver, or between 5½ and 6 cents in gold. The few men employed are paid but little more. The same wages practically obtain in the Japan mills. It will be a long while before the Chinese can supply their own wants in cotton manufactures. The Japanese have some 800,000 spindles and are closely approaching the time when they will be able to supply their own wants. The Japanese are buying Indian cotton and mixing it with the American article. They used to buy Chinese cotton to a great extent, but grew impatient of Chinese prices and the habit of wetting the cotton to increase its weight. Japan is now competing successfully with America and Europe for China's trade in cotton manufactures.

"Chinese cotton is the short staple article and American cotton is imported to mix with it. There are no looms to speak of in China, and it is only turning out coarse yarns. For this reason the manufacturers will at the start only cut into the American trade in drills, sheetings, and cotton flannels. The trade in finer goods will not perceptibly be affected. By the end of this year, when the five new mills are completed, China will produce 250,000 bales of yarn annually. This is about the quantity that has been imported for years from India, and the first big effect of the awakening in this industry in China will be to cut heavily into the Indian trade."

Thus the *Chronicle* under the headings of "A New Growth for China. Great Progress since the Late War. Much Encouragement in the Building of Cotton Mills at Shanghai":—

G. W. Noël, a prominent Shanghai merchant is at the Palace. Speaking of Chinese commercial affairs yesterday he said: "There has been great business activity since the war, especially at Hongkong and Shanghai. Under the new treaty foreigners may import goods. As a result five great cotton mills are going up at Shanghai, under German, British and American supervision. They will probably make 250,000 bales of coarse cotton yarn a year, which is the amount now imported from India.

"Bank stocks have greatly appreciated since the war, in some cases jumping from 73 per cent to 183 per cent. Another encouraging sign is the building of railroads. The road from Peking to Hangchow and from there to Canton will no doubt be built. The Chinese were taught the value of roads by the late war."

ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL preserves and strengthens the hair, prevents it falling off or turning grey, and is the best brillianter for everybody's use, and as a small bottle lasts a very long time it is really most economical for general use; also golden colour for fair hair. ROWLAND'S KALYDOR is most soothing, cooling and healing for the face and hands; removes freckles, tan, sunburn, redness, &c., and produces soft, fair skin. Sold by chemists. Ask for ROWLAND'S, of 20, Hatton Garden, London.

2

LI HUNG-CHANG AND BISMARCK.

A highly-coloured description of the meeting of Li Hung-chang and Prince Bismarck appears in the American press. Not content with describing the clothing of the two famous old men, the lively journalists of the States invent a conversation for them. Here is a part of the performance:—

"You are the greatest and most celebrated statesman of your country," said Bismarck. Li was gazing at Bismarck's rugged face and eagle eyes. "Now that I have seen your serenity's piercing eyes, I for the first time understand your success," he said. Bismarck replied: "Your loftiness, too, has had great successes." But Li deprecated them with: "Not nearly so great as yours." "Well," responded Bismarck, "we all try to do our duty."

Li is much crippled. He stood as long as he could, and when he was about to sink with fatigue Bismarck invited him to sit. Then the two old men fell to discussing their ailments.

"I sleep badly," said the Prussian, in response to the Chinese statesman's eager enquiries.

"I, too, suffer great pain," said Li.

"But I have no pain," retorted Bismarck.

"It is in my face," continued Li. "It hurts me," and he invited Bismarck's attention to his homely face, which is still further twisted by neuralgia. At luncheon they talked politics. With several German reporters present, and taking stenographic notes, Li talked recklessly for a man who has a yellow jacket to lose.

"The purpose of my visit," he remarked, "is to ask your serenity's advice."

"What advice?" asked Bismarck.

"How can we best reform China?"

"I cannot judge from here."

"How can I act successfully against the Court in Peking?"

"One cannot act against a Court. No Minister can resist the will of the Ruler. He only executes it or gives advice."

"But how can the Ruler's will be carried out?"

"Only on the basis of the army. It may be quite small, not more than 50,000 perhaps, but it must be good."

"We have men," replied the former Viceroy, "but training is wanted. Nothing has been done in this direction. For thirty years I have striven in vain against this lethargy. I have now seen the finest army in the world—that in Germany. Though I shall no longer be able to expend means of my own, which were at my disposal as Viceroy, I shall do what I can to act up to your serenity's advice. We must reorganise, and we must do it with the help of Prussian officers and on the Prussian model."

"The army," remarked the Prince, "need not be distributed all over the country. It is only necessary to have it at one's disposal at any moment and to throw the force quickly and easily from one point to another."—*Japan Mail*.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—The most effectual Cure for Gout and Rheumatism.—A frequent cause of these complaints is the inflammatory state of the blood, attended, with bad digestion, lassitude, and great debility, showing the want of a proper circulation of the fluid, and that impurity of the blood greatly aggravates these disorders. Holloway's Pills are of so purifying a nature that a few doses taken in time are an effectual preventive against gout and rheumatism, but anyone that has an attack of either should use Holloway's Ointment also, the powerful properties of which, combined with the effects of the Pills, ensure a certain cure. The Ointment should be thoroughly rubbed into the parts affected at least twice a day, after they have been sufficiently fomented with warm water to open the pores to facilitate the introduction of the Ointment to the glands. (1)

THE FAR EASTERN QUESTION.

BY "BEHIND THE SCENES."

Never did a nation make a greater muddle of its splendid opportunities than the *tori* homines of Japan in the management of their "conquests." At first, everything went on with a military precision, a steadiness of purpose, and a lucidity of plan which appeared to European observers, accustomed only to shiftiness and vacillation in Orientals, as positively marvellous. It is known to a few, however, that the historical lines of march between China and Corea on the one hand, and between Manchuria and China on the other, are absolutely fixed by nature as well as by military records. The Han dynasty 2,000 years ago and the Sui T'ang succession of dynasties 1,200 years ago, followed exactly the same land and water routes—in the reverse direction—which the Japanese followed in 1894. At the time when the Japanese consented to treat for peace, in the spring of 1895, their position was almost precisely that of the Manchu chieftain Taitsung in 1644: that is, they had the Chinese Empire within their grasp if they had only possessed the daring to seize it; but time was allowed to Russia to gather allies and forces, and the once brilliant opportunity has now passed away for ever. Taitsung died just as his efforts had resulted in the founding of an imperial dynasty. But his brother Torkun, the Yamagata of the time, taking in at a glance the importance of the situation, at once marched upon Peking. The last Chinese Emperor of the Ming dynasty had just committed suicide; Chinese rebels, in arms against the all-prevailing venality and tyranny, had seized and plundered Peking. China's "only general," in desperation, had gone north to secure Manchu assistance, and a decisive battle was fought at Shanhaikuan in the summer of 1645 between the Manchus and General Wu San-kuei's Chinese troops on the one hand, and 500,000 Chinese rebel riff-raff under Li Tsze-ch'eng on the other. Doubtless the Japanese, who are well-read in Chinese literature, must have perfectly understood that when they had reached the city of Kinchou they were exactly in the position of Taitsung and Torkun. At all events, the Chinese understood it, and knowing well that the Shanhaikuan or Pass was the true and only north-eastern key to China, their desperate offers to conclude peace with Japan date from this moment. Count Ito, in his negotiations with Li Hung-chang, tried his very utmost to induce that wary statesman to consent to a Japanese occupation of Shanhaikuan, Taku, Moukden, and Tientsin as a security for the carrying of such a treaty as might be concluded. Of course, as this would have practically placed the hand of Japan upon China's throat, Li absolutely refused to listen to it, and meanwhile his attempted assassination by the madman Koyama Rokunosuki secured him both breathing time, and, what was more important, the sympathies of the civilised world. The bullet received by poor old Li Hung-chang in his humiliated face was worth at least £20,000,000 and a good province to China.

Torkun, uncle of the first Emperor of the now reigning Manchu dynasty, pushed on after his Shanhai victory straight to Peking. The sagacious clemency of the Manchu chieftains contrasts strikingly with the blundering conduct of the Japanese, who, both in physical appearance and mental vigour, are men of a different calibre. The Chinese Empire then was in exactly the same rotten condition that it is now, the grand old Manchu element having soon been absorbed. Every Chinaman was willing to sell himself to the highest bidder or the most powerful conqueror; and accordingly Torkun, with the aid of Chinese renegades and Chinese armies, soon completed the conquest of the whole

of China for his juvenile nephew and nominal master, the Emperor Shun Chih. Had the Japanese only possessed the nerve to act promptly, all they had to do was to march upon Peking at the first signs of spring, and before steam navigation in the northern rivers became possible for European men-of-war. Half the Chinese statesmen at Peking would have turned traitors to the Manchus; the few remaining genuine Manchus at Peking would have taken to flight with the Empress; the degenerate Manchu or Chinese-Manchu garrisons in the provinces would have either fled, dispersed, or been massacred by the Chinese long before the arrival of the Japanese conquering forces at each local centre, and a Japanese dynasty would most probably now have been established in China. But the Japanese just failed at the critical point. Allowing for certain provocations, their general conduct and humanity (if second-hand) were correct and unexceptionable; their military strategy and naval evolutions were masterly; at all events they were triumphant, and it is ungenerous, besides being mere speculation, to cavil at complete success. The unpreparedness of Russia, the quite recent death of the pacific Czar, the fact that winter rendered Russia helpless (even if she had then been already "locally" prepared), the general desire on the part of all other European powers to see supercilious China thoroughly thrashed—all this conspired to create an unrivalled opportunity for the Japanese, which, together with their chances of becoming a *Weltmacht*, has now gone for ever.

Then followed mistake after mistake. First the attempt to secure for themselves a portion of Manchuria, which, in any case—the golden opportunity of seizing the whole empire having slipped away—would have been a self-weakening acquisition. Then its abandonment without making a stand for adequate compensation. Then the foolish attempt to seize Chinese passengers on board a British steamer on the high seas. Then the lamentable Miura incident, and the murder of the Queen of Corea. From a Japanese point of view all this is positively heart-breaking. After being "a new Power of the first magnitude," the dazzling star, which shot into the firmament of politics with such bewildering suddenness, has now gone out almost as suddenly. The Japanese are at present discredited, and their only hope now lies in practising their talents of imitation once more in the direction of "good for 'em," in order to secure sound alliances.

What has Russia been doing all this time? The Korean treaties with European Powers were sprung upon the world so unexpectedly in 1883 that they were one and all taken by surprise. When the King of Corea wrote to the British Government in the winter of 1882-3, the Foreign Office was obliged to ask Sir Thomas Wade "Who is the King of Corea? What is his relation to China?" Before any other Powers had a chance, the capital of Corea was flooded with American missionaries. Under the pretext of "protecting" them, the United States of America has always exercised a strong influence upon Korean policy, mainly because the missionaries were the only white men able to converse with the King in his own language. Then came the Panjdeh incident, and the temporary occupation by Great Britain of Port Hamilton. The Americans were at that time pro-Japanese, the idea being to counteract the dark, retrograde, and Machiavellian policy of the Chinese Resident Yüan Shih-kai. Judge Denry of San Francisco, who had once gained Li Hung-chang's complete confidence as U.S. Consul at Tientsin, was sent for at that Viceroy's recommendation, to go to Corea as Foreign Adviser of the King in the place of Paulus von Moellendorff. During two years of intrigue, confusion and assassination, von Moellendorff, an ex-

Customs' official in China, subsequently German Consul at Tientsin, who had left his own country's service in a huff, had, at Li Hung-chang's instance, being employed in Corea to assist the King. Being an obstinate and self-willed (but it must be added, a sufficiently honest and disinterested) adviser, he emancipated himself from Li Hung-chang, set up as a sort of Dictator, and was so for at least a year. The European representatives at Seoul, and the Korean Premier himself considered it a great honour during 1885 to assist at a garden-party in von Moellendorff's residence. He sided with the Russians on the Port Hamilton question and it consequently suited both Chinese and British interests to get rid of him. Li Hung-chang resolved upon it. Who more ready to aid than the Chinese Resident Yüan, with his Japanese-hating, Europe-veneered secretary, Tang?

Whilst all these machinations were going on, M. Speyer appeared upon the scene on behalf of Russia. After reconnoitring for a few days he disappeared, and M. Waerber came as permanent *Chargé d'Affaires* for Russia. The British Governments at that date were changing with a kaleidoscopic rapidity more characteristic of France than of England. Even if Great Britain had had a policy, that policy was subject to the expectation of some definite Government getting into power and declaring it officially. One (negative) thing however the British Government did not do: it did not recognise the King of Corea's independence beyond going the length of appointing the British Minister at Peking to be also British Minister for Corea. This truly British compromise resulted in the appointment of a very amorphous official at Seoul,—"a temporary-acting-consul-general." Meanwhile, the French determined to have a finger in the pie, and M. Cogordan appeared, with a great flourish of trumpets, as Minister Resident, disappearing immediately afterwards. Captain Richard Parker, an ex-Confederate naval officer, held the same nominal rank on behalf of the United States; but his career in Corea was short and not glorious: he was speedily recalled, and a mere boy named Lieutenant Foulke (now deceased), who had most ably steered a clear course for the United States during three years of dense intrigue, was left in charge of American interests once more, until Mr. Rockhill, now Assistant-Secretary of State at Washington, temporarily relieved him. The Italian Minister, the late M. de Luca, who ought to have taken a part in Korean affairs, and ratified his treaty, preferred, it would seem, to play a comfortable rubber in the Shanghai Club.—*The Imperial and Asiatic Quarterly Review*.

What was M. Waerber's policy and character? M. Waerber is more of a German than a Russian, both in appearance and character: yet he is profoundly and loyally Russian. He is no intriguer. He is a plain, hardworking, unpretentious man, whose first experience was gained as a student-interpreter and junior officer at the Peking Legation. As men go, his character is upright and honest: his abilities are not of a brilliant order; but he is extremely circumspect, prudent, and persistent. It is a mistake to suppose that Russian diplomatists are left free to make fools of themselves as much as they like, and that only success is wanted to secure for them the Czar's approval of their pranks. It may be true that the Russian Foreign Office is portentously secret; but it is also true that its diplomatists are kept well in hand. Amidst the bullying intrigues of Yüan, the vacillating mole-like moves of Japan, the tentative drifting of England (diversified every now and again by some dashing, self-contradictory, or inexplicable act like the seizure of Port Hamilton, the abandonment of Port Hamilton, the conquest of Burma, the offer to pay "tribute" to China), the sentimental interferences of the United States,

etc., it was difficult for M. Waerber to know what to do. He wisely did nothing; but he watched. The whole Korean situation was a puzzle to Europe. No government knew what to do. Of course, Russia wanted a port free from ice; she made no secret of it. But M. Waerber simply said: "We may want it, or we may not; that is our business; anyhow, we have not seized it, as the British have seized Port Hamilton. Either that seizure is approved by Corea, or it is not. If approved, we apply for compensation. If not approved, and if Corea has not the strength, by herself or through China, to turn the British out, it will be a question whether we ought not to seize something too, until some one makes up somebody's mind to do something." At that time France had not yet conceived the idea of allying herself with Russia. She only had her hounded missionaries to protect, and a general desire to be a dog-in-the-manger to some one—no matter whom—so long as the French flag was seen. The instructions of the German Consul-General—who, by the way, during the assassination period was usually away from his post—seem to have been to follow the lead of England. When he was there he was apt to ask: What is the lead of England? Usually, a junior was in charge. Meanwhile, Seoul being a dismal place of exile, all parties fraternised together socially. Mrs. Waerber, an accomplished linguist, in the absence of anything female except missionary society, got in with the Queen. Being a clever, ambitious woman (loyally ambitious for her somewhat slow, sure, and studious husband) she soon acquired a great personal influence over the Queen. The American missionaries of both sexes also became very intimate at the palace. Dr. Allen was first transformed from a missionary into a Legation doctor; then into a Korean "advising Minister;" then into a Korean Secretary of Legation at Washington; finally into a U.S. *Chargé d'Affaires*. The key-note of Russo-American policy, so far as they had one, was "the independence of Corea." Until Miura showed his traitorous hand, Japan was fairly in with Russia and America. Great Britain did not see her way, so long as the Chinese continued to insist upon Korean tribute missions, to recognise Korean independence. Germany monopolised nearly all the trade which was not Japanese, and in any case the *Reise Kaiser* (as distinguished from the *Greise* and the *Weise*) had not yet conceived the idea of abandoning the old "hang on to England's tail" policy in the East. Of course, the United States only wanted Korean independence on "general principles;" coupled, perhaps, with a bit of sentimental hatred for the cheap-labour "Heathen Chinese," and of sentimental half-contemptuous love for the progressive modernised Jap. Russia and Japan both wanted "independence," in order that they might have a free hand for loans, treaties, protection, etc. France and Italy were practically "out of it." The British Minister at Peking was too busy with Burma, missionary massacres, transit-passes, and likin, to run over to Corea. Since the first visit of Sir Harry Parkes in 1884, no British Minister or *Chargé d'Affaires* had ever even once visited any part of Corea. The flying visit of Mr. O'Connor in 1893 is absolutely the only one on record. Thus it may be said that Great Britain totally neglected Corea, and in this way the field was left invitingly open for Yüan's plots, Japan's countermining, Mrs. Waerber's petticoat influence, and general dissolution.

Then came the Tonghak rebellion. Everybody, Great Britain and Russia included, thought the Chinese fleet and Li Hung-chang's private army at least were serious quantities, not to speak of China's mysterious "resources." China made the fatal mistake—of course prompted by Yüan—of sending troops contrary to her agreement with Japan. Japan at once saw her,

opportunity, sank the *Kowshing*, promptly set armies in motion, annihilated the Chinese fleets, tumbled her be-fanned and be-petticoated cowardly generals over one after the other; and, as we have explained, appeared knocking ominously at the Shaan-haikuan.

M. Waeber still maintained a watchful attitude. His mind, like his bodily movement, is that of the tortoise rather than that of the hare. Yet it must not be imagined that he had been a Russian success. True, all Europe had been taken by surprise; not Russia alone. But his superiors could not help feeling that, amid such stirring events, he must have been half asleep to leave them so very much in the dark. This time last year he was positively transferred to Mexico, and M. Speyer was sent out to replace him.

Now, however, occurred the tortoise's opportunity. The Japanese hare had won the race, and in a moment of infatuation, had "taken a nap." The Count Inouye, who, at least, is as honourable as any Japanese nobleman, was replaced by that strange recluse, General Miura. No more villainous intrigue, followed by cowardly butchery, ever took place in any country than the dastardly murder of poor Queen Min in Miura's time. Queen Min, whatever her faults, was at least a bright and plucky woman. She was also an affectionate and firm personal friend of Mrs. Waeber and of the American missionaries. Certainly, she "ran" her contemptible husband, but she was quite loyal to him and to China. Mrs. Waeber now shook her husband up. The wretched King, who in spite of his amiable qualities, is a poor imbecile creature, fled to the Russian Legation. Only just in time to save M. Waeber. M. Speyer had already arrived. We can only divine by what womanly arts and manly diplomacy Mrs. Waeber then succeeded in turning events to the best advantage for her husband. Of course, the prudent M. Waeber (who was totally innocent of the profound plot leading up to these dreadful events) telegraphed to his Government for instructions. The blubbing King said: "I will never desert Mr. Micawber," and hung on to the Waebers so hard that the Czar (i.e. Prince Lobanoff) had to "re-advise himself." But apart from that, the whole occurrence was a perfect godsend for Russia, and Russia would indeed be foolish if she did not take full advantage of it.

Luck, nothing else, has thrown half the world at Russia's feet. China has always dreaded Russia more than any other Power, but even China must feel truly grateful to Russia for turning out the "Japanese dwarfs." Even Li Hung-chang said to Count Ito (when, at one of the Shimonoseki interviews the latter obstinately refused to listen to a single plea of the old statesman): "A time will come when I shall remember this obduracy." A time has come. Japan, in her hour of presumptuous triumph, neglected the opportunity, actually offered by Li in spite of China's humiliation, to conclude a defensive alliance against Europe. To be conquered by stalwart Europeans is bad enough; but the mortification of being "sat upon" by insignificant *Wojén* eats deeply into the Manchu, as well as into the Chinese, heart. Japan is now at Russia's feet on precisely opposite grounds. Ill at ease as to the mysterious Chinese combinations that may be forming against her; impatient at her contemptuous neglect by Great Britain, and unwilling to pass through the ordeal of proving to Great Britain that the Japanese alliance is to be trusted and is worth having, she is desperately anxious at all costs to appease the Colossus. France, as we all know, has "effaced" herself to an extent that no independent nation in modern times has ever done, in order to obtain the Russian countenance. The nominal head of liberty, refinement, scepticism, and civilisation denies her past for a vague future and trots obsequiously after the declared repre-

sentative of autocracy, repression, pan-Slavism, bigotry, and (so far as the masses go) of Oriental barbarism. Germany, under her present Emperor, is an unknown quantity: suffice it to say that no one can trust her; that any one may get at her if he pays the price; but in any case it must be on an unmistakable *do ut des* principle if any advantage is to be obtained from her. Turkey,—which means the present Sultan so long as he lives,—is simply existing from hand to mouth, will hold with the hare or hunt with the hounds from day to day according to circumstances.

What then is to be done? Russia has every country at her feet. That alone not only emphasises the fact that England has no one at her feet, but it also brings out the suggestive prospect that all countries are placing themselves under Russia's wing either in order to save themselves from one another, or to induce Russia to desert one in favour of the other, or to induce Russia to join in a coalition against England;—there can be no other motives. Russia owes this favourable turn in affairs to the prudence, secrecy, and loyalty of her policy. There need be no danger to us, if we are fair and generous to Russia. Russia did not come out well in the Armenian affair, but this was because the Berlin Treaty had made us the responsible parties. Russia said to us: It is for you to act. If you cannot do so, then do not dictate to us how we are to help you, but leave us to act." In Corea it is much the same thing. Russia tells us: "Japan has failed: so has China. America, Germany, and France are only makeweights; you can do nothing. We should be very glad to act; but it is you who forced China to make us promise that we would not, under any circumstances, occupy Corea; in consideration of this pledge you gave up Port Hamilton, which, by the way, you had no right to take."

The moral of the whole matter is that all the cards, trumps included, are now in the hands of Russia and of ourselves. Let us, therefore, arrange everything first in a fair spirit with Russia, the others can follow. But Russia will certainly begin by obtaining a moral satisfaction for the murder of the Queen of Corea, and turn out the Japanese.

P.S.—Just as these lines go to press, news arrives that the veteran statesman, Li Hung-chang, is shortly expected to set foot on these shores. So conspicuous a figure on the stage of "far eastern" diplomacy will, no doubt, receive a right royal as well as a popular welcome, and it is to be hoped that the opportunity will be taken by those in power to come to a thorough understanding with the Grand Secretary based upon a friendly triangular *entente* with Russia. The entry of China into the Post Office Union (the rules and regulations for which are published in the native papers just received) is an event as auspicious as the arrival of Li Hung-chang, and it is to be devoutly wished that British Diplomacy may succeed in forming in addition, a political union in the sense above indicated that shall be advantageous alike to Russia, China, and England. The points upon which Great Britain will expect concessions are the free opening of the West River, the gradual absorption by the Foreign Customs Services of the likin stations, an adequate protection for missionaries, and permission to set up machinery for all purposes, at least in the open ports. As for China's requirements, she, of course, knows them best herself and they should be met, to the fullest possible extent, in the same spirit in which we desire her to consider our requests.—*Imperial and Asiatic Quarterly Review*.

HENLEY REGETTA.

THE RACE BETWEEN THE LEANDERS AND. YALE.

ROBE'S EX-CHAPELAIN SECURES SECOND PLACE.

Henley, 7th July.

In the heat between Yale and the Leander Rowing Club, the Leanders won to-day. The Yale men were afloat at 9.45 a.m. and took a short trial spin to test the rigging of their boat.

The weather was cloudy and oppressive, there was scarcely a breath of air at noon to-day. All the morning trains arrived heavily laden with rowing enthusiasts, but the crowd was not as great as expected. Yale colours were seen everywhere on the grand stand, in the enclosure, house boats, launches and small boats. Mr. James R. Roosevelt, Secretary of the United States embassy, was present.

Previous to the beginning of the racing Bob Cook said that with conditions as they were at 11.30, there was not the slightest advantage in either Bucks or Berks station. He added it was a perfectly fair course, and thought the Leanders would win by from a length to a length and a half.

The Leanders were waiting in midstream when Yale was on the point of embarking. The letter wore white jerseys edged with blue. The Leanders looked nonchalant and confident, while the Yale men looked very solemn.

The crews started well and prettily together at 1.33. "This is a surprise," said Kent, as the Leanders, who had counted on getting away first were unable to shake off the Americans, and on the contrary Yale kept more than even, rowing a beautiful, clean stroke, then steadily forged ahead, with Leander vainly trying to overtake her. Yale showed herself quick at starting, but at the end of the island the Leanders had a lead of one man, and were steadily creeping away, rowing evenly and powerfully. The cheering along the course from the start was fair and impartial, and as the two crews rowed almost neck and neck for over half the distance, there were cries from both banks of the river, "Well rowed, Yale!"

At the half distance it looked as if Yale might win, but at the finish the New Haven men were exhausted and sat leaning on their oars, while several of them dashed water over their faces. The Leanders were comparatively fresh. As the boats appeared in sight near the finish there was tremendous applause, shouting and flags waving, and excitement increased until it became a hurricane demonstration in favour of Yale upon the part of the Americans, and in favour of Leander in the case of the British. Yale partisans on the Grand Stand were fairly wild with excitement. The time of the race was seven minutes and a quarter of a second.

When Yale's boat was taken from the water, Rogers and Brown had to be assisted into the boat-house, where they were laid on the floor. Several of the Leanders attended immediately and began chafing their arms, etc.; doing everything possible to revive the sufferers. It was at first feared that Brown had broken a blood-vessel, and Rogers lay gasping for breath while the attendants quickly brought water and sponges with which they bathed their faces and chests. Brown was scarcely able to speak, but he stammered out, "How is Rogers?" Other members of the crew are in good shape, although Captain Treadway was bathed in perspiration as he sat on the edge of the boat and repeated, "Never mind; we did the best we could."

The crew bore their defeat pluckily and manfully, and many Leander men who came to the Yale boat-house warmly congratulated the Americans on the game fight they made.

After the heat had been decided, Col. Willan, representative of the Henley stewards, other regatta officials and prominent rowing men went to the Yale boat house and shook hands with Bob Cook and the American oarsmen, expressing regret that they had not won. Everybody here joined in praising Bob Cook for his admirable handling of the Yale crew. He was never away for more than an hour since they landed, and the crew have expressed to him their gratitude. Bob certainly never worked harder to get a crew in fit condition to win a race.

New York, 7th July.

Mr. Cook, coach of the Yale crew, in a copyrighted cable despatch to the *Commercial Advertiser* from Henley-on-Thames this afternoon, says in part: "It is only what might have been expected. There are no excuses to be made and probably none are expected. Yale had several setbacks. Our crew was slower, less energetic and lacked the rhythmic motion of the more experienced Leander crew. Yale was beaten and the Leanders won purely on their merits. Yale's reception on the course was extremely popular, all classes joining in recognition of Yale's good appearance and pluck. Yale's defeat is due to no lack of pluck or courage, but simply to the fact that the English crew was better drilled, and rowed with almost absolute perfection both in time and in the discreet application of their power. Our reception by the English was charming. In every respect they have been well pleased with the Yale crew, and their coaches express the hope that Yale will try it again, and will always be welcome here.

"If we have lost the race, we have made good friends in England."

In the first trial heat for the Grand challenge cup the First Trinity beat the London Rowing Club by a length. Time, 7.20. In the second heat New College beat Trinity Hall. Time, 7.19. Third heat, Leander beat Yale. Time, 7.00½.

First heat for the Diamond Sculls R. Beaumont, of Burton-on-Trent, beat F. Beddington, of the Medway Rowing Club; the second heat was won by Vivian Nickals, of the London Rowing Club, against Sidney Swann, of Cambridge. Hon. Rupert Guinness, present holder of the trophy, won the third heat from H. T. Blackstaffe; Dr. W. S. McDowell, of Chicago, won the fourth heat against E. A. Guinness, brother of the trophy holder.

The first heat of the Wyford challenge cup, four oars, was won by Trinity College, Oxford, against the Thames Rowing Club; Caius College beat the Moulsey Boat Club in the second heat, and in the third heat the London Rowing Club beat Christ Church, Oxford.

Eton won the first heat of the Ladies' challenge plate against Jesus College, Oxford; Balliol College, Oxford, winning second heat against Bedford Grammar School.

In the first heat of the race for the Stewards' challenge cup for four oars, the crew of the London Rowing Club beat the crew of Caius College, Cambridge, by a bare length. Part of the race was rowed during a heavy rain storm. Time, 7.50.

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Law Reports.

H.B.M.'S POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 3rd August.

Before H. BENCRAT JOLY, Esq.,
Police Magistrate.

R. v. CRAWFORD.

William Crawford, unemployed, was charged with being drunk and incapable in the Public Garden on the 2nd inst.

Police Sergeant Madsen's evidence was to the effect that the accused was lying drunk in the Garden with a stone-bottle containing gin by his side. He was removed, but declined to go away and threw the bottle down at witness' feet.

Prisoner admitted being drunk, but said it was because he met a few friends during the day. He added that he did not take the gin into the Garden, although he helped to drink it. In reply to his Worship, accused said he had been a policeman in Hongkong and came up here to seek employment some two months ago.

Inspector Ramsay added that the accused some two years ago was also in the Municipal Police, but his conduct was not good.

His-Worship ordered him to pay a fine of \$4 or to go to prison for a week.

R. v. WHITE.

Thomas White, A.B., belonging to the *Pottaloch* was charged with being drunk and disorderly on board, and damaging the ship's property.

William Hanley, chief officer of the ship, said that on Saturday afternoon the accused, who had been more or less drunk all day, struck one of the crew and created a disturbance. Witness remonstrated and the prisoner then severed a hauling line worth about £8.

Robert Chatham said that on Sunday, shortly after breakfast, he was sitting by the windlass when the accused came up to the lamp-room, which was near, and tried to open the door. When he found it locked he called to witness, who had the key, to open it. Witness refused, and the prisoner coming up said if he (witness) did not do so he would open him. The accused then struck him, and witness reported the matter to the chief officer. Prisoner was drunk at the time.

George Smith, sailmaker, deposed to seeing the prisoner cut the rope.

Prisoner, in reply to the Magistrate, said he did not recollect doing anything; if what was alleged against him was true he was very sorry.

His Worship sentenced the accused to two weeks' imprisonment and to be put on board in the event of the ship sailing before.

R. v. AGAHTOOS.

Michael Agahtous, fireman on board the s.s. *Shirley*, was charged with disobeying orders and refusing duty.

Captain Charles Whympier, master of the s.s. *Shirley*, said, that on the 13th of last month the accused refused duty, and was sentenced to two terms of imprisonment at Hankow. When put on board the accused again refused. He had been examined by a doctor and pronounced perfectly sound, but he simply shook his head and refused work, saying he was finished. He quite understood what he was told. Witness kept him on bread and water and had him put in irons after the ship left Hankow. The other men did not like the accused hanging around, so witness had him put in irons.

Benjamin Watson, chief engineer, said the prisoner simply refused duty. There could be no doubt about his understanding what was said and he used to work fairly well, although a bit lazy. When the hot weather came on accused absolutely refused to work, without any reason. None of the other men had complained.

Joseph Marshall, donkeyman, said he had heard the accused say to other men that rather than work he would go to prison. The accused understood and could speak English perfectly well.

Prisoner, when questioned by his Worship, said he was a Greek, but born in Constantinople, did not understand English.

Mr. Eveleigh, the superintendent of the Sailors' Home, said the accused came to him on Sunday, with his bag, and said he was a fireman. He spoke in English, and after some conversation witness sent him off.

His Worship said he knew Greek at one time and was inclined to attempt to speak it now. He then carried on an animated conversation in Greek with the accused, who persisted that he was sick and unable to work.

Captain Whympier said the man had been examined by a doctor and declared quite fit for work. He was a nuisance and demoralising to the other men.

His Worship said he could not sanction the accused being discharged from the ship as the Board of Trade would not allow it, but he would explain to the accused that he would be sent to prison for two weeks, hard labour, or until the departure of the ship, and would forfeit his wages from the 27th of July until he resumed work.

Captain Whympier pointed out the nuisance the accused was, and wished to discharge him, but

His Worship said that would have to be discussed in the Shipping Office.

4th August.

R. v. A LASCAR FIREMAN.

A lascar fireman, belonging to the *Ravenna*, was charged with being drunk and disorderly outside the P. & O. office on Monday afternoon.

Native P.C. 356 said that about 2 o'clock on Monday afternoon he was called by a gentleman from the P. & O. office to arrest the prisoner, who was drunk and making a disturbance outside the door. When he arrested the prisoner he became very violent, and witness had to call assistance.

Native P.C. 351 corroborated the previous witness' evidence.

Prisoner admitted the offence, and said he went to the office to ask to be sent back to Bombay as his agreement with the company had expired.

His Worship cautioned the prisoner and ordered him to be put on board the *Ravenna*.

6th August.

R. v. NELSEN.

John C. Nelsen, steward of the *Holyrood*, was charged with being absent from his ship without leave since the 30th ult.

Detective Wood deposed to having arrested the prisoner on the previous afternoon in a boarding-house in an alleyway off Dixwell Road, Hongkew. When arrested prisoner admitted having deserted his ship, saying that the reason he had done so was that he did not like the captain.

Prisoner in reply to his Worship said the captain had told him to leave. He said he had not intended to return to the ship, if he could have "got clear."

His Worship said it was certain that the captain did not tell him to leave, because he was in the shipping office when the captain explained that he did not want the prisoner to leave the ship.

Two weeks' imprisonment with hard labour.

R. v. O'BRIEN.

James O'Brien, unemployed, was charged with being drunk and incapable in North Homan Road.

Native P.C. 352 said that at half-past nine on the previous night he saw the

prisoner in the North Honan Road annoying passers-by by throwing stones at them. A large crowd gathered and chased the prisoner, who ran into a rice shop, the proprietor of which asked witness to arrest him. Witness did so. Prisoner was drunk.

Prisoner said a stone had first been thrown at him, and he had thrown it back into the middle of the crowd.

Mr. Eveleigh said he shipped accused on the *Holyrood*, which, however, sailed on Saturday without him. Witness had given him \$5 to get a bag, which witness never saw. He had been a great nuisance in the Home, robbing and thieving all round.

One week's imprisonment.

THEY WONDERED TO SEE HIM.

"I could not move a yard without help. I can now walk for miles."

There is certainly a very sharp contrast between these two statements. When we see a person who, because of illness, is unable to move a yard without help, we do not expect to meet him on the road and on foot miles from home, soon thereafter; if indeed we meet him at all. At least we should regard these extremes, considered as within the experience of the same man, and enclosed within a comparatively brief period of time, as something to wonder at and ask questions about. And people *did* wonder at and inquire about it. Many said the circumstances recalled the age of miracles, supposed to have passed forever away. The facts (briefly set forth in a letter from the man himself) are as follows. We may add that Mr. Henry Jackson is a farmer, well known and respected in his district, and his case is familiar to neighbours and friends of his throughout the vicinity.

"In the early part of 1892," says Mr. Jackson, "I began to feel weak and ailing. I was low in spirits, and my bodily strength seemed to be leaving me. There was a bad and nauseous taste in my mouth; my appetite, which had always been good, failed until I had no real desire for food whatever, and after eating I had much pain at the chest and a fulness around the sides. My stomach always felt *burning hot*, and I had a quavering pain at the pit of it.

"I remained in this general condition until August of the same year, when I was taken worse. My legs began to swell, and rheumatism set in all over me, more particularly in the hips and back. No local treatment had any effect upon it. It grew worse and worse, until I was no longer able to rise from my chair without assistance. In truth I had no power over myself, and *could not move a yard without help*.

"I suffered so with mere pain that I could not lie in bed, and for over twelve months I never had my clothes off.

"During this time I was attended day and night, being literally unable to do anything of importance for myself. All the sleep I got was taken in naps and snatches while I was bolstered up in my usual place in an easy chair. Under the terrible strain of the pain and loss of proper rest my nerves broke down so that any uncommon event in the house or noise was more than I could bear. My heart was very bad, and thumped until I could scarcely stay in the chair and endure it.

"The doctor who had charge of my case said my condition was critical. He said that my lungs and liver were badly affected, and that I had Bright's disease of the kidneys. Still his medicines did me no good, and after attending me ten months he said he could do no more for me.

"I then got a doctor from Bolton to see me, and he held out but slender hopes of my ever getting any better. I thought the same, and so did all who saw me.

"In October, 1893, my daughter, Mrs. Dickinson, of Bolton, told me how she had been benefited by taking Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and thought it might possibly help me. I had small faith, but there could be no harm in trying. So we sent at once to Mr. Pare, the chemist, in Fild Road, Bolton, for enough to decide whether it would do me good or not. After taking it a short time I was better. I could sleep better, and

had some appetite for food, and what I ate agreed with me. This was hopeful and cheering indeed.

"I kept on with the Syrup and it acted wonderfully with me. The worst symptoms abated, and I gained strength. Soon all the water in my legs passed off, and the rheumatism troubled me but little. Still using the Syrup, my condition continued to improve in every respect, until I once more stood on my feet, and felt like a man of this world. I can now walk for miles and have no pain. All my friends think as I do—that under the circumstances my recovery was nothing short of marvellous. You are at liberty to publish this statement, and refer any interested persons to me. (Signed) Henry Jackson, Pewett Hill Farm, Calcheth, near Warrington, October 9th, 1895."

No words of ours can add to the convincing force of Mr. Jackson's plain statement. His disease was originally and radically of the digestion. The attack was sharp and profound, and developed into the resulting conditions he so well describes. He may not have had Bright's disease, but that he was directly progressing towards that fatal malady there is no doubt. The effect of Mother Seigel's Syrup in his case only serves to show afresh its rare and remarkable power. Scarcely is so great a victory to be looked for from any medicine. Yet the facts are undeniable. We congratulate Mr. Jackson on his escape from a danger which was much more serious than even he probably imagined.

(6) 7, 14 & 21au 175

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

BIRTHS.

At No. 3, Miller Road, Shanghai, on the 1st of August, the wife of ARCHIBALD SNEAKER, of a daughter.

On the 25th of June, at 10, Cambridge Villas, E. Twickenham, England, the wife of MURRAY CROCKETT, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

At 11A, Nanking Road, Shanghai, on the 3rd of August, 1896, JOHN WILLIAM POWELL, aged 34 years.

On the 6th of August, drowned, while out rowing, ADOLF BAURFEIND, of Hamburg, aged 23 years. Deeply regretted.

On the 29th of July, at Kwangchi, DAVID KIMBER, the beloved son of Joseph Kimber and Helen Leak HILL, aged 11 months.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Ernest Simons*, for London—Mr. Jas. McDougall. For Marseilles—Messrs. Dautremere, Delchevalerie, Aldis, Manger, Gumpel, and Stephan. For Port Said—Mrs. von Haas. For Singapore—Mrs. Lewis and 2 children, and Mr. Wise. For Hongkong—Messrs. Figueiredo, Matheson, Poletti, and Blankenstein.

Per str. *Yokohama Maru*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. W. B. Buyers, C. Hanbury, D. McNeill, R. Phillipot, C. Glenk, W. D. Little, A. P. Wood, H. Bass, A. Neubourg and son, A. Mendel, Moorehead, Low, and F. W. Reis. For Kobe—Mr. and Mrs. Kusunoki, Messrs. S. Kondo, and Sotomi. For Yokohama—Mrs. W. B. Buyers and 2 children, Dr. and Mrs. Hodge and child, Misses Gary, Allen, Reynolds, and L. M. White, Captain W. W. Reisinger, Messrs. Yamada, E. W. Pugh, P. McGregor Grant, and J. Smith. For San Francisco—Mrs. Hincelot and 2 children, Messrs. Lew Ming Chuen, and Tien Thoo Nien. For Hamburg—Mr. Otto Messing.

Per str. *Empress of China*, for Hongkong—Mrs. Powell and infant.

Per str. *Hsin-yu*, for Chefoo—Baron von Babo.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, for Ningpo—Mr. Fitch and 2 children.

Per str. *Haeting*, for Tientsin—Mr. E. G. Hornby.

Per str. *Wuchang*, for Tientsin—Count le Mangin, and Mr. Melrose.

Per str. *Poyang*, for Hankow—Capt. von Falkenstein, and Lieut. Genz.

Per str. *Kaifong*, for Chefoo—Messrs. H. D. Hawks, and C. R. Shaw.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Sachsen*, from Bremen—260 sailors. From Genoa—Mr. and Mrs. Schott, Messrs. Richard Genz, and Pistorini Guiseppe. From Naples—Messrs. L. Philipp, and E. von Falkenhayn. From Colombo—Count Fiuckenstein. From Hongkong—Messrs. J. Lant, H. Schröder, J. J. Francis, C. J., and J. C. Melrose.

Per str. *Empress of China*, from Vancouver—Mrs. A. P. Bowes; Mrs. H. A. McLeod, Misses. (2) McLeod, and Tucker, Messrs. H. W. Decker, Harrison, J. H. Norcross, Chas. E. Richardson, J. Irving Hoyt, F. M. Gurland, and Ross. From Kobe—Mr. Mrs., and Miss Thomas, Messrs. F. W. and W. J. Bird. From Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Heffer, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Nazer, Mrs. G. K. Moore, Surg. Major S. Westcott, Lieut. D. Power, Messrs. W. J. Tyack, C. Radclyffe, and M. Peden. From Nagasaki—Mrs. E. P. Johnson, Miss N. W. Jewell, Master Evans, Messrs. John W. and J. P. Powell, Servance, and Caer.

Per str. *Saikio Maru*, from Yokohama, etc.—Mr. and Mrs. Nolting, Misses Monti, and von Holten, Capt. Laebbecke, Messrs. W. S. Simpson E. W. Monkhouse, F. W. Reis, Moorehead, Hall, O. A. Madar, R. C. Phillipps, C. G. Boone, A. Mendel, W. B. Buyers, N. Nabekura, B. Dallas, H. D. Hawks, R. E. Bredon, A. P. Wood, H. Locksmith, Stephen Bonsal, M. Yokoi, K. Jaronye, K. Kimura, and K. Nojima.

Per str. *Salazie*, from Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. Colomb and child, Messrs. Finch, Laing, Rhodes, and Hancock. From Kobe—Messrs. Piry, Kniffier, and Stipmann.

Per str. *Haeting*, from the Sables—Messrs. Bremner, A. Stewart, H. Hearn, C. Rudolph, Styan, J. S. Fearon, Read, Coutts, Midwood, E. B. Skottowe, Macray, Buckland, Murray, Morris, and Burgoyne.

Per str. *Canton*, from Hongkong and Amoy—Messrs. Symons, and Syddon.

Per str. *Fooksang*, from Canton. Hongkong and Swatow—Mrs. Scott, infant and amah, Mrs. Brumfield, Rev. Mr. Davis and servant.

Per str. *Kiangyung*, from Hankow—Messrs. A. Clebinkoff, and H. R. Sougaby.

Per str. *Yiksang*, from Foochow—Messrs. Ford, and Ohlinger.

Per str. *Yuenwo*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Moberley, and Mr. Mitchell.

Per str. *Kiangyu*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Emery.

Per str. *Wuchang*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Rev. R. Woolfaden, and Mr. Gundersen.

Per str. *Lienshing*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Mr. Abbey.

Per str. *Pekin*, from Ningpo—Mr. Smith.

Per str. *Fukuo*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Woods and family.

Per str. *Hsinchi*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Masters C. Weir, H. and J. Banbury.

Per str. *Poyang*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Bunt, Messrs. Wenyon, and Rodewald.

Per str. *Hohow*, from Swatow—Miss L. F. Whilden, and Mr. Thompson.

Per str. *Sual*, from Hankow—Miss E. Howard, Messrs. F. W. Gallies, and W. Sanders.

Per str. *Tatung*, from Hankow—Dr. and Mrs. von Schiok, Rev. and Mrs. Grier, Dr. Cox, Rev. Papin, Messrs. Carles, d'Almeida, and Frere.

Per str. *W. Cores de Vries*, from Hankow—Miss McCarthy, and Mr. Croker.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month	Barom.	Wind	Temp.	Humid.	Direction	Initials
Aug 1	29.98	91.0 w.	2 91.0	62.0	99.0	81.0 B.
2	29.99	91.0 s.	3 91.0	82.5	99.5	84.0 B.
3	29.97	87.0 s.	2 87.0	79.0	101.0	81.0 B.
4	29.93	88.0 s.w.	2 88.0	81.5	98.0	80.0 B.
5	29.94	88.0 "	2 88.0	82.0	100.0	81.0 B.
6	29.90	88.0 "	2 88.0	82.0	99.0	83.0 B.
7	29.90	88.0 "	2 88.0	83.0	99.0	83.0 B.

EXPLANATION.
Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; a. snow; t. thunder; t. calm. Force from 1 to 12; estimated.

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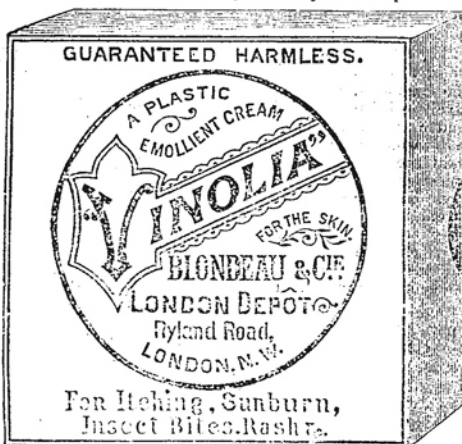
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FACE SPOTS

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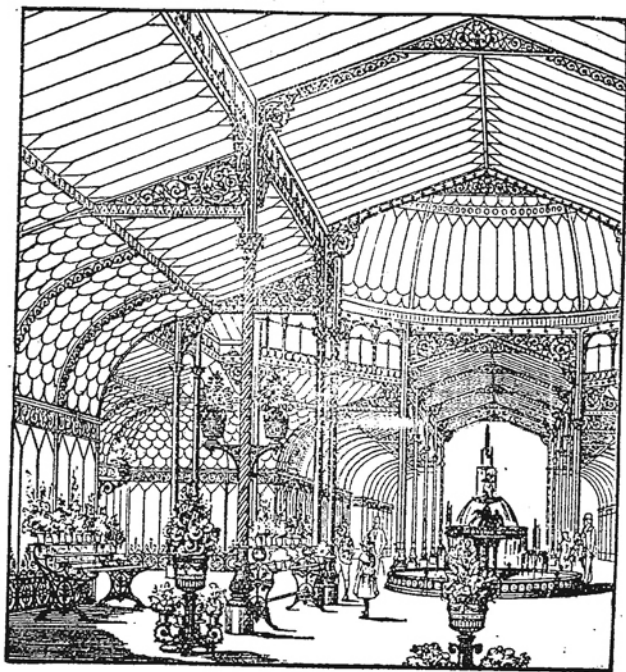
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21st January, 1896.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

(From Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co. Piece Goods Trade Report of 6th August.)

PIECE GOODS.—There is a much better feeling in the market generally, and a fair business has been done in spot cargo and for near arrival, but the more forward transactions have been limited owing to the rise that has taken place in the home markets. Late advices show that the MANCHESTER market has advanced some two pence or three pence. This no doubt is caused by the excitement that is at present ruling the LIVERPOOL market, and it is difficult for us to give any authentic quotation for cotton, as no reliable information has come to hand during the week. It is, however, generally understood that a considerable advance has taken place, and that the price of cotton to-day is 4d., or even higher. Recent mail advices have been so unanimous in speaking of the favourable conditions and prospects of the cotton crop that it seems unlikely a "blight to the crop" is responsible for the present movement and it is more than probable that the cause will eventually be traced to speculation. This movement comes at rather an unfortunate time as dealers have been withholding their orders for the Spring trade in the hope of getting in at lower rates which they were led to expect would follow the recent estimates placed before them of a full cotton crop.

News this week from the NORTHERN markets are rather better, particularly from TIENTSIN, where there is an improved demand for the commoner qualities of 8.4-lbs. Grey Shirtings and 64-reed White Shirtings. There is no change to report from either the RIVER or NINGPO markets.

The Export for last month was 50 million yards of Plain Cotton which, although heavy, is not exceptionally large. The shipments of Yarn to JAPAN, HONGKONG and SHANGHAI amounted altogether to 9,000 bales, of which 2,300 bales and 1,500 bales are for the two latter markets respectively.

Grey Shirtings.—8.4-lbs.—A total of about 25,000 pieces will cover the private sales from first hands this week, made up of the following chops:—Green Pah Zau Doo £1.61, Double Eagle £1.92½, Two Elephant and Bell £2.00 and Three Feet £2.05. There is more enquiry for these goods, but importers in view of the latest home advices, are not pressing sales. Prices at auction are higher all round.

A sale of 1,000 pieces Dutch make under Stork chop is reported at £1.80.

Light Weights.—There is nothing reported privately, while at Auction prices are steady with a firmer tendency.

Heavy Weights.—Sales of about 9,000 pieces are reported but this does not represent the week's business as several lines have been taken on a sterling basis for arrival. Three Fishes £2.14, Red Flower £2.34, Blue Flower £2.50 and Variegated Wheelbarrow £2.80. Prices at Auction keep very steady.

36-in., 12-lbs.—There is little movement in these and only a small sale of India Soldier XXX at £2.90 is reported. At Auction prices are very irregular, the tendency being for lower prices.

White Shirtings.—We are unable to give any quotations this week as we have not been furnished with the particulars of the sales of fine goods made for arrival. There is evidently some demand for this class of goods as prices at Auction in most cases show advances.

T-Cloths.—There has been some business done in 7lbs., sales amounting to about 7,500 pieces having been announced on the basis of £1.38 for Two Men and Fish and £1.60 for Blue Dragon Crown. Prices at Auction are rather better.

In INDIAN makes we have heard of no business.

Drills.—English.—A fair business has been done for arrival on a sterling basis but no particulars are forthcoming. A small sale of Dutch make under Dragon chop has been made at £2.56.

Sheetings.—English.—Demand seems to have finished in the meantime as we have not heard of a single transaction but we believe clearances are being made in a satisfactory way.

Indian.—A sale of 1,000 pieces Blue Lion is reported at £2.70.

American Drills and Sheetings.—It is estimated that about 4,500 bales have been sold during the week for arrival. The bulk of these have been sold on a sterling basis, but the following quotations have been given to us: *Sheetings, New Lion* £3.15, *Red Bat* £3.20 and *Red Melon* £3.25; *Drills, New Lion* £3.20 and *Flying Horse* £3.27½. It is said Chinese are doing very well with their stocks of P.M.C. Drills and re-sales have been made at £3.45 and £3.50. The latter price, however, requires confirmation.

Jeans.—We have only heard of one sale privately, viz.: 400 pieces *Lion and Tree* at £2.40. At Auction only a small lot was offered and prices are rather lower.

Yarn.—*English.*—We have no business to report in these.

Indian.—The demand noted in our last continued during the earlier part of this week when exchange turned against buyers and the market in consequence is quieter though very steady. Sales amounting to 2,698 bales have been made chiefly to the NEWCHWANG and THIENTSAN dealers. No. 10s. have had most attention, but there is some enquiry for 12s. which, however, are not available owing to the absence of stock.

No. 10s., 1,420 bales—*Hongkong Mill* £56.50/57.00, *Indian Manufacturing* £55 50/56.00, *Jubilee*, Mule and *Anglo Indian*, Mule £57.50/58.00, *Imperial* £58.75, *Empress* £58.50/59.00, *Sun Mill* £59.00, *Tea Carrier* £59.00/59.50, *Howard and Bullough* £60.50 and *Currimbhoy*, Ring, £61.25.

No. 12s. 125 bales—*Morarju Goculdass* £62.00 *Currimbhoy*, Mule, £63.00 and *Oriental Colaba* £60.50.

No. 16s., 560 bales—*Indo-China* £65.50, *Currimbhoy*, Mule £66.75/67.50, *Framjee Petit*, Fish and *Bombay Cotton Mill*, Mule £68.75.

No. 20s., 583 bales—*Nariad* £69.00, *Anglo-India* Mule, *Imperial* and *Empress* £69.75, *Vithaldas Copoldas Woman* and *Mahalashima 5 Old Men* £70.50, *Connaught* and *David Mill* £71.50.

The unsold stock is now estimated at about 17,500 bales.

Fancies.—Indents for the Spring trade continue to be put through but in very small lines; *Imitation Crêpes* and *Dyed Figured Goods* receiving most attention. There has been a welcome revival in demand for *Mustins* during the week and a few sales have made but the prices are not published.

Woollens.—We have not heard of any business outside the Auctions where prices for *Camlets* are higher, but this may be accounted for by the smaller quantities offered. *Long Ells* are rather lower while *Lastings* show a decided advance. At the earlier Auctions *Spanish Stripes* inclined to be easier, but to-day they were steadier again.

Metals and Miscellaneous.—From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co.'s report of 7th August:—One week succeeds another without business exhibiting any marked improvement. On every side the one complaint is of the dullness and slackness of trade. The monthly figures of Exports and Imports of Metals, etc., are not very encouraging; the only lines showing the effect of a fair demand being Galvanised iron, and some few leading items in Old Scrap Iron, such as Horse-shoes, Tyres, etc.

During the last week or two no contracts have been booked for New Metals; Lead and Nailrods continuing neglected, as recently reported. A lot of BAR CROPPINGS (spot) were sold at about 85/, c.i.f., and some small lots of Rod Iron, Staffordshire, have been booked. The most interesting news is perhaps the arrival, a week ago, of some 400 tons of Bar and Rod Iron from the Hanyang Iron Works, near Hankow, the first production of Chang Chih-tung's venture. It has been placed in native hands to sell on behalf of the Ironworks, the quality is said to be fairly good, but the only test in China is in the using, and one will be better able to report on that in a few months' time. At present Coke and transport are expensive items, and these are against the success of Hanyang, both of which obstacles can only be overcome by railways and mining.

Chinese are still speculating in land, and it is said that at Soochow prices have advanced for river-front lots from \$50, a year ago, to £1,000 a mow already.

Li Hung-chang has been quick to avail himself of bimetallic logic to support his demand for double duties, and has also shown considerable cuteness in "booming" himself in Europe in true Western fashion.

In Sundries, apart from some small orders in Colours and Needles, although there is apparently a somewhat better tone, actual transactions have been nil.

Kerosene Oil.—No change to report.

Opium.—Closing quotations:—Malwa (new) £549, (old) £555/575; Patna, £524, (new) £518; Benares, £544, (new) £532.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From Mr. A. R. Burkill's Circular of 6th instant:—

London advices are unaltered. "Market quiet, Gold Kilings 8¼, Blue Elephants 10/6."

RAW SILK.—The position remains unchanged, very small settlements and no enquiry to speak of for any description. Holders are becoming uneasy at the lack of orders or counter-offers and would meet the market if there were any signs that small concessions would bring about business. The outlook, however, is not encouraging; consumption for the first half of 1896 compares very unfavourably with the figures for 1895, and the total production of silk this season is more than adequate for all requirements. French and Italian filateurs are meeting the markets freely, and Canton has also been a free seller from the opening of the season.

Tsatlees.—About 100 bales have changed hands at quotations. The quotation of Tls. 346¼ for Gold Kiling is for old silk.

Taysaams.—About 150 bales Kahings (White and Green) and Skeins are reported settled.

ARRIVALS, as per Customs Returns from 30th July to 4th August are, 836 bales White, 9 piculs Yellow, and 37 piculs Wild Silks.

The Export of Steam Filatures to date is:—To London 2 bales, Continent 372 bales, and America 127 bales.

WASTE SILKS.—No transactions. Arrivals small.

PONGEES.—1,000 pieces of 21/22in. x 70 yards x 56 oz. picked over goods are reported sold at Tls. 13¼.

Prices calculated by Maerten's Tables at 11 per cent. Exchange 3/0¾ and Fcs. 3.85. Freight Tls. 6.50 per bale.

	Tls. per picl.	Stlg. per picl.	Fcs. per kilo.		Tls. per picl.	Stlg. per picl.	Fcs. per kilo.
TSATLEES.—Black Lion 4½	400	10/6½	23.20	TAYSAAMS.—Kahings White Gold Lily 2	350	9/3	25.70
" Gold Kiling	346½	9/2	25.40	" " Green Y. V. C. Chaey Ling 357½	357½	9/6	26.15
				" " Toongpan	337½	8/11	24.75
				" " "Lie" Skeins Double Crane	275	7/4½	20.40
Settlements for this mail about	1896-97.	1895-96.	1894-95.	1893-94.	1892-93.	1891-92.	
" " season in- }	250	1,750	2,000	1,000	2,500	2,400 bales.	
cluding forward contracts }	" 6,700	28,000	10,500	18,500	22,500	14,000 "	
Stocks \$	" 12,500	16,000	14,500	13,500	10,000	15,000 "	
Total Arrivals \$	" 19,200	38,000	25,000	32,000	32,500	29,000 "	
		\$ Including old Silk.					

	* England.	* France, &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Japan, Coast & Straits.	Grand Total.
Export White Silk in Bales } of 80 catties }	549	3,570	4,119	266	34	84	4,503 bales.
„ Yellow-Silk in piculs	...	115	115	...	162	133	410
„ Wild „	10	1,244	1,254	...	...	5	1,259
Total.....	559	4,929	5,488	266	196	222	6,172
Against in 1895-96	477	13,331	13,808	2,036	1,497	417	17,758
„ 1894-95	754	5,574	6,328	609	1,299	355	8,591
„ 1893-94	1,645	12,937	14,582	454	1,707	338	17,081
„ 1892-93	1,311	16,707	18,018	601	1,068	513	20,200
„ 1891-92	1,789	4,875	9,664	494	815	356	11,329
„ 1890-91	1,153	7,340	8,493	310	480	339	9,622
Export Waste Silk	952	916	1,868	383	1	29	2,281 piculs.
Against in 1895-96	1,693	2,964	4,657	940	...	430	6,027
„ 1894-95	1,882	1,768	3,650	3	...	...	3,653
„ 1893-94	1,529	2,631	3,890	...	...	115	4,005
Export Cocoons.....	45	451	496	...	...	633	1,129
Against in 1895-96	...	662	662	...	...	433	1,095
„ 1894-95	31	669	700	...	...	2,319	3,019
„ 1893-94	...	3,369	3,369	197	1	519	4,086

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.
Also 299 piculs Old Silk Wadding to Continent.

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Tea.—From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular of 7th instant:—

Our last “printed” Tea market advices were under date 24th ultimo.

London deliveries of China Congou for July were 1,980,000 lbs., against 2,438,000 lbs. for corresponding month last year. “Type” quality is quoted @ 4½d. a lb., against 5½d. at same date last year.

Calcutta telegrams give export to London for July 15 millions, or the same as last year. Estimated total for the season is 126 millions.

Hankow advices report second crop practically finished, showing a decrease of about 150,000 half-chests compared with the yield of previous year, and the third crop would probably not reach 30,000 half-chests, against 80,000 half-chests last year. The decrease in the two crops will be fully 200,000 half-chests.

In this market a small business has been passing in Teas from Taels 13 @ 15 a picul, and the greater portion of the settlements are intended for shipments to America. Tea-men are not so firm in their demands, though no quotable decline has yet taken place.

Settlements reported are:—

Ningchow.....	1,097	half-chests, @ Tls. 14.00 @ 17.00 a picul.
Kutoan.....	627	“ “ “ 13.00 “ 13.50 “
Hohow.....	60	“ “ “ 13.50 “
Wenchow.....	281	“ “ “ shipped.
Oonam.....	301	“ “ “ 11.25 “

2,366 half-chests.

Stock—25,135 half-chests.

GREEN TEAS.—*Pingsueys.*—There is no change to report. Tea-men will offer their Teas for sale during the coming week; their latest move is to limit the quantity to be brought to market this season to 120,000 half-chests. With the best intentions possible we doubt the ability of any set of men to limit supplies if prices will leave a margin of profit to producers, and the size of the crop will depend more on prices than on promises.

Local Packs and Wenchows are in no demand. The absence of quality in water of the latest arrivals is very marked.

Countries Teas.—Moyunes have arrived freely during the past few days, and have received the full attention of buyers: they bear out first impressions and as a crop they are more fragrant, and superior in drawing qualities to the average of late years: they stand away from any other Teas of the season in these respects. Prices have been very irregular, but inclined to become firmer as sales progressed. The Tienkais are an unattractive crop, plain in water and appearance and likely to deteriorate quickly owing to their being too lightly fired. Fychows have been dealt in at about previous prices.

Hysons.—After touching Taels 40 a picul for “choice” Moyune the market became quiet, and in some cases three acls a picul decline has been accepted.

Settlements reported since 24th ultimo:—

Moyune	6,953	half-chests, @ Tls. 15.75 @ 30.00 a picul.	
Tienkai	7,083	“ “ “ 16.00 “ 30.00 “	Lines Tls. 33
Fychow	4,014	“ “ “ 13.50 “ 19.00 “	“ “ 30
Local Packed	700	“ “ “ 17.50 “ 22.15 “	“ “ 25/31

Total..... 18,750 half-chests.

The rates by Pacific routes and Overland are 1½ Gold cents per pound gross. *Olympia* (s.) leaving to-day, *Saikio Maru* (s.) leaves here to-morrow, 8th August, connecting at Yokohama with *Gaelic* (s.) leaving 18th August, *Empress of China* (s.) advertised to leave 15th August, and *Monmouthshire* (s.) about 20th August.

EXCHANGE closes at 3/0½ for 4 m/s. Credits.

Exchange.—(Closing Rates)—On London—Telegraphic Transfers, 3s. 0½d. Banks Bills, demand, 3s. 0½d. Banks Bills 4 months' sight, 3s. 0½d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 3s. 0½d. a ½d.; 6 months' sight, 3s. 0½d. Private and Documentary; 4 months' sight, 3s. 0½d.; 6 months' sight, 3s. 0½d. On France—Bank Bills, demand, Fcs. 3.81; Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 3.84, 6 months' sight, 3.85. On Germany—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, Marks 3.12, lowest 3.12, highest 3.13. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, \$133, lowest 133, highest 133. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, \$73, lowest 73, highest 73 per \$100; Private Bills, 3 days' sight, \$72½, lowest 72½, highest 72½. On Yokohama—Telegraphic Transfers \$73½, lowest 73½, highest 73½ per \$100. Private Bills, 15 days' sight, \$73, lowest 73, highest 73. On Bombay and Calcutta—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 254½, lowest 254, highest 255½ per \$100. Bank Bills, demand, Rs. 255, lowest 254½, highest 256. Bullion—Gold Bars, Shanghai, 98 touch, \$325.00, lowest \$24.00, highest \$325.00. Silver Bars, \$111.15, lowest 111.10, highest 111.20. Mexican dollars, \$72.80, lowest 72.8, highest 73.00. Carolus dollars, \$97.00, lowest 96.00, highest 97.00 nom. Copper Cash 1,260, lowest 1,250, highest 1,260 per tael. Chinese Interest, mace 1.8, lowest 0.5, highest 2.00. Bar Silver in London, per oz. 31½, lowest 31⅞, highest 31¾.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morriss, Fergusson & Robertson's Circular.)

July.	Bar Silver per oz in L'don.	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		GER-	NEW		YOKO-	INDIA.
		T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/s.		Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do.		MAN- Y.	YORK.		HONG-	
		Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	4 m/s. Priv.	Docty. 4 m/s.		KONG.	T/T
1st	31½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.84/3.85	3.84/3.85	3.12	133		73	73½
4th	31½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.84/3.85	3.84/3.85	3.12	133		73	73½
5th	31½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.84/3.85	3.84/3.85	3.12	133		73	73½
6th	31½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.84/3.85	3.84/3.85	3.12	133		73	73½
7th	31⅞	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.0½	3.84/3.85	3.84/3.85	3.12	133		73	73½

Shares.—From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report 7th of August:—

BANKS.—*Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.*—Shares have been in demand during the week, and business has been done at 190 to 192 per cent. premium for cash, and to Hongkong at 192 to 194 per cent. premium. On time, shares were sold at 194 for August delivery, and at 195 for delivery on the 10th September. *National Bank* shares are offering at \$28½. There is no business to report in *Bank of China* and *Japan* shares.

SHIPPING.—*Indo-China S. N. Co.* shares have been placed at \$37 cash and \$38 for delivery on the 31st current. There are cash sellers at \$37. *Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat* shares are quoted \$32½ in Hongkong, and *Douglas Steamship* shares are wanted there at \$64½. *China Mutual* Ordinary shares, with £5 paid up, are offering.

DOCKS.—On account of anticipated opposition, shares in *S. C. Farnham & Co.* have been sold at \$200, and there are shares offering at \$202 for the end of August. The prospectus of the *Shanghai Engineering Ship-Building and Dock Co., Ltd.* has been issued. The capital is \$750,000 in 7,500 shares of \$100 each, of which 200 will be Founders' shares. The share list for Shanghai will close on the 17th current, and on the 25th for the outports.

MARINE INSURANCE.—*North China Insurance* shares have been parted with at \$190. *Yangtze* have been sold at \$142½ and \$145 for cash. A number of *Straits Insurance* shares have been placed to Hongkong at \$27, and locally at the same rate.

FIRE INSURANCE.—There is no business reported. *Chinas* are wanted at \$94.

WHARVES.—*Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf* shares have changed hands at \$125 and \$122½. *Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf* and *Godown* shares are wanted in Hongkong at \$54½.

MINING.—*Punjom Mining* shares were placed to Hongkong at \$14, and *Raub Australian G. M.* shares at \$5½.

CARGO BOATS.—The *Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.* paid an interim dividend of 7 per cent. on the 5th instant, and the *Coöperative Co.* paid a similar dividend of 5 per cent. on the same date.

SUGARS.—*Perak Sugar Cultivation* shares were placed, and are offering, at \$44. *China Sugar Refining* shares were sold at \$105 cash, and \$108 for delivery on the 31st current.

LANDS.—*Shanghai Land Investment* shares changed hands at \$78. *Hongkong Land Investment* shares are wanted at \$74.

INDUSTRIAL.—*Major Bros.* shares were placed at \$42½, and *Ewo Cotton S. & W.* shares at \$35.

MISCELLANEOUS.—*Shanghai Gas Co.*—The new shares have been issued. Shares have been sold at \$206. *Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco* shares have been placed at \$95 cash and \$97 for the 31st current, and *Shanghai-Langkai* shares at \$600. The shareholders in this Company have resolved to increase the capital to \$400,000 in 4,000 shares at \$100 each. Of these 400 will be given to the holders of the 10 Founders' shares which will be cancelled. Only 3,980 shares will be issued, the registered owner of each share receiving a new share at \$100. *Hall & Holtz* shares have been in demand, and have been placed at \$35 to \$37½.

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Return on Inv. allowing for Amortization.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1888	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$100	6 %	Dec. & June.	(g) 4.90%	... (a) nominal.
Do. 1890	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$100	6 %	Do.	...	...
Do. 1891	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$100	5½ %	Do.	...	...
Do. 1892	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$100	5 %	Do.	...	... (a) \$100.00
Do. 1893	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$100	5½ %	Do.	(g) 5.06%	... (a) \$105.00
Do. 1894	\$105,000.00	\$105,000.00	\$100	6 %	Do.	(g) 5.15%	... (a) \$110.00
Do. 1895	\$115,000.00	\$115,000.00	\$100	5 %	Do.	(g) 4.92%	... (a) \$101.00
Do. 1896	\$120,000.00	\$120,000.00	\$100	5 %	Do.	(g) 4.92%	... \$101.00
Lyceum Theatre Debentures.....	\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00	\$25	4 %	24 July 1895	...	... \$15.00
Chinese Imp. Government Loan 1886 E	\$767,200.00	\$680,104.00	\$250	7 %	Mar. & Sept.	(g) 6.05%	... (a) \$275.00
Shanghai Land Inv. Co. Debentures, 1890	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$100	6 %	May & Nov.	(g) 5.00%	... (a) \$110.00
Do. Do. 1892	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$100	5½ %	June & Dec.	(g) 5.29%	... (a) \$102.00
Do. Do. 1894	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$100	6 %	Mar. & Sept.	(g) 5.14%	... (a) \$110.00
Do. Do. 1896	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$100	5 %	June & Dec.	...	... (a) \$100.00
Shanghai Waterworks Co. Debentures '94	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$100	6 %	Mar. & Sept.	(g) 4.65%	... (a) \$112.50
Do. '96	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$100	5 %	June & Dec.	...	... \$100.00
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co. "	\$400,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$100	6 %	June & Dec.	(g) 4.95%	... (a) \$110.00

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 4th August, 1896, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 175 to 179, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.													
	Ningpo.	Wohchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kinkiang.	Hankow.	Ichang & Chungking.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Japan.	Coroa.
Grey Shirtings +	10,440	...	13,420	560	2,670	3,526	...	1,169	8,049	3,310	260	...	...	...
T-Cloths, 32-in.	660	...	1,515	60	370	360	...	400	1,526	...	1130	...	...	...
36-in.	1,447	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indian, 32 & 36-in.	132	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	...	...	...	...	...	...
White Shirtings	1,610	...	760	200	1,260	2,380	...	450	3,540	90	80	350	50	...
Drills, English & Dutch.	420	...	645	90	150	750	...	270	300	1,725	...	...	150	...
American	2,070	...	1,395	105	180	1,080	...	960	4,380	11,070	60	...	...	...
Jeans, English & Dutch.	1,240	...	220	...	240	...	...	...	...	160	...	...	...	...
American	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheetings, English	400	...	2,180	220	460	280	...	401	900	870	...	...	...	...
Indian	...	...	...	60	...	60	...	40	...	1,550	...	...	...	...
American	600	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,700	6,415	15,055	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings	100	...	310	...	30	420	...	...	350	50	...	...	...	...
Bro. & Sp. S'tings, D. & W.	40	...	150	100	93	...	...	240	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes	50	...	380	180	120	...	...	60	480	80	...	...	...	...
Printed T-Cloths	510	...	940	...	80	800	...	712	2,042	60	110	240	...	...
Printed Twills	...	...	60	80	60	60	...	...	...	120	...	...	...	...
Turkey Red Shirtings	150	...	410	...	450	96	...	80	725	120	50	...	...	...
Velvets	312	...	...	30	60	210	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...
Velveteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	312	...	...	...	...
Handkerchiefs	...	...	360	600	600	600	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muslins	100	...	64	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	...
Lenos & Balzarines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton Yarn, Indian	348	...	519	3	495	3,174	...	180	1,293	1,890	3	...	...	...
English	3	...	6	...	18	42	...	...	57	...	...	...	...	...
Japan	171	...	...	...	15	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes, Woollen	12	...	18	42	84	138	...	...	276	...	12	...	...	...
Cotton	...	...	240	6	...	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Medium & Broad Cloths	...	...	...	18	82	94	...	16	...	56	...	...	...	...
Camlets	30	...	70	30	150	290	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...
Long Ells	...	...	100	150	450	280	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...
Lastings	40	...	60	...	20	150	...	20	40	100	...	...	...	...
Italian Cloth	...	...	60	90	60	150	...	...	...	120	...	...	...	...
Cotton Lastings & Italians	1,010	...	1,240	190	469	820	...	420	662	90	...	...	...	...
Plain & Figured Orleans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton Flannels	20	...	120	...	40	60	...	...	60	220	...	...	...	...
do. Japan	...	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead-in Pigs	...	...	101	...	...	...	...	3,830	62	6,380	...	...	...	...
Iron, Nail Rod	395	...	525	109	84	861	...	...	274	...	164	...	...	...
Kerosine Oil, American	1,200	...	1,000	200	1,530	6,600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Russian	...	...	500	...	500	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TOTAL DELIVERIES.

TOTAL IMPORTS.

Stocks at date are based on the Chamber of Commerce Returns on 30th June, 1896.

GOODS.	TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			Stocks at date are based on the Chamber of Commerce Returns on 30th June, 1896.	
	As above.	For the Year from 1st Jan. 1896.	Against last year to same term.	For the week.	For the year from 1st Jan. 1896.	Against last year to same term.	At date Estimated.	Against 6th August, 1895.
Grey Shirtings +	56,644	3,494,485	3,005,459	18,260	3,341,343	3,056,165	1,411,027	1,332,280
T-Cloths, 32-in.	8,220	645,597	490,916	6,860	589,905	434,192	238,633	79,404
36-in.	1,947	85,889	63,130	1,250	122,968	72,116	84,036	24,333
Indian, 32 & 36-in.	2,632	190,408	84,140	...	130,095	117,410	85,621	74,950
White Shirtings	14,780	1,121,654	816,273	12,555	1,200,853	777,558	398,533	488,989
Drills, Eng. & Dutch	4,850	158,064	142,322	1,050	190,769	132,409	156,303	114,718
American	21,550	454,515	261,043	...	573,810	293,782	93,065	144,114
Jeans, Eng. & Dutch	2,140	83,687	74,153	...	104,177	69,549	58,205	37,514
American	100	23,325	10,920	...	21,500	10,000	...	300
Sheetings, English	6,111	548,474	251,506	4,830	682,208	261,358	118,373	124,752
Indian	1,910	72,605	33,670	...	98,167	9,880	51,860	11,690
American	25,070	879,855	495,801	...	914,565	381,977	212,095	192,100
Dyed Shirtings	1,460	90,618	76,667	120	57,856	66,474	4,577	24,715
Bro. & Spot. S'ts., D. & W.	773	25,578	26,853	...	30,580	27,754	13,913	39,930
Chintzes	1,650	111,200	47,363	1,658	140,638	51,562	10,277	2,232
Printed T-Cloths	6,094	424,079	298,682	11,235	469,471	278,201	181,200	153,856
Printed Twills	680	98,970	47,382	1,389	143,737	28,277	58,513	34,438
Turkey Red Shirtings	2,281	140,239	118,208	930	219,100	114,155	173,278	60,940
Velvets	732	16,979	16,763	...	25,027	20,304	14,889	8,962
Velveteens	372	9,711	3,683	...	10,536	4,956	4,344	3,722
Handkerchiefs	5,660	320,155	216,105	10,943	550,730	162,790	206,611	78,876
Muslins	564	155,104	86,636	1,411	299,448	103,566	93,219	41,288
Lenos & Balzarines	200	33,016	45,264	...	35,051	5,782	14,215	4,486
Cotton Yarn, Indian	8,175	436,346	253,762	...	489,665	249,382	106,716	50,875
English	156	14,465	17,706	222	11,664	16,494	5,057	4,981
Japan	246	16,398	7,273	495	44,862	7,929	2,343	7,281
Spanish Stripes, Woollen	654	19,742	17,640	...	28,544	19,692	12,904	7,643
Cotton	334	20,247	12,658	80	22,061	9,533	6,999	7,883
Med. & Broad Cloths	326	11,413	8,027	190	18,300	5,075	11,072	5,733
Camlets	780	26,815	29,229	...	22,073	24,800	14,180	10,840
Long Ells	1,240	32,215	29,195	6	48,596	45,570	66,446	61,840
Lastings	630	33,947	32,369	150	23,327	23,972	18,427	16,539
Italian Cloth	680	25,368	34,885	28	81,416	35,719	23,679	17,723
Cotton Lastings & Italians	5,601	440,280	292,374	1,025	594,822	332,921	220,757	238,654
Plain & Figured Orleans	...	520	2,008	...	500	100	1,580	1,830
Cotton Flannels	760	13,978	14,551	1,200	15,032	2,885	31,380	33,834
do. Japan	40	5,104	3,578	...	583	1,155	?	?
Lead-in Pigs	10,373	60,637	58,312	...	76,444	69,638	18,869	16,738
Iron, Nail Rod	2,412	129,086	94,370	...	213,010	74,949	90,758	60,277
Kerosine Oil, American	10,530	1,041,198	647,184	...	1,268,103	2,015,696	?	1,190,065
Russian	1,000	601,961	497,700	...	466,512	646,161	?	363,511

+ Including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

† The usual daily returns from the Wharves unobtainable.

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per Borneo, Ellen Rickmers, Marquis Bacquehem, Olympia, Ningchow, Yarra, Glenfruin, Formosa, Mirapore, Bombay, Sachsen, Tantalus and Cremarty.

Import Cargoes declared during interval: Diomed Additional Dordogne.

SHARES.

SHANGHAI, 7th August, 1896.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVID. & C.		dividends for 3 years.	Return on investment on average of 3 years' dividends.	CASH QUOTATION	
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When paid or due.			Closing.	Tls.
<i>Banks.</i>												
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co.	80,000	\$125	\$125	\$5,750,000	\$312,780.12	31-12-95	*£14	18-2-96	\$15.11	5.66	\$365.62	266.91
National Bank of China, Ltd.	40,453	£10	£8									
Do.	3,818	£10	...	\$70,000.00	\$4,218.84	31-12-95	†\$1.17	.....	\$1.18	4.14	\$28.50	20.80
Do. Founders'	750	£1	£1								\$115.00	\$3.95
Bank of China & Japan Ltd.												
Do. ordinary shares	94,208	£8	£2	.....	\$£227,515.78	31-12-95	none	.....	.....	.....	nom.	nom.
Do. deferred do.	1,026	£1	£1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£2.00	nom.
<i>Shipping.</i>												
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co.	49,589	£10	£10	c£84,295.16.2	£6,066.13.7	31-12-95	†\$5.07	2-7-96	\$3.94	10.65	.....	37.00
Ch. Mutual S.N.Co. pref. shares.	16,736	£10	£10				*3%	12-3-96	\$4.03	7.66	£8.50	52.50
Do. ord. do.	1,231	£10	£10	c£12,693.5.0	£1,472.18.4	31-12-95	†6%	12-3-96	\$2.70	.....	nom.	nom.
Do. do. do.	15,505	£10	£5	d\$4,199.11.3			†6%	12-3-96	\$1.85	9.49	£3.16	19.50
H'kong, C'ton & M'cao S.B.Co.	80,000	\$15	\$15	d \$609,000	\$47,302.02	30-6-96	*8%	8-9-96	\$1.93	5.94	\$32.50	23.72
Douglas Steamship Co. Ltd.	20,000	\$50	\$50	c\$350,000.00	\$40,593.70	30-6-95	\$3.50	23-9-95	\$5.00	7.81	\$64.00	46.72
Do. c 38,146.71												
<i>Docks.</i>												
Beyd & Co., Ltd., Founders'	200	\$100	\$100				†\$117	29-7-96	\$39.00	.....	nom.	nom.
Beyd & Co., Ltd.	7,800	\$100	\$100	\$160,000.00	\$37,167.24	30-4-96	†\$15	29-7-96	\$13.00	6.58	197.50	197.50
S. C. Farnham & Co., Ltd.	7,500	\$100	\$100	\$130,000	\$7,424.48	30-6-95	†\$12	4-9-95	\$10.67	5.33	200.00	200.00
H'kong & W'pao Dock Co. Ltd.	12,500	\$125	\$125	\$200,000	\$54,474.30	31-12-95	*12%	26-2-95	\$19.58	5.36	\$365.00	266.45
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>												
China Traders' Ins. Co., Ltd.	24,000	\$83.33	\$25	{ \$900,000.00 c 244,283.41	\$290,727.79	30-4-95	†\$5	28-9-95	\$4.83	6.11	\$79.00	57.67
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	5,000	£100	£25	\$250,000.00	\$353,511.02	31-12-95	†\$16.49	29-4-96	\$16.79	8.84	.....	190.00
Union In. Society of Canton, Ltd.	10,000	\$250	\$50	{ \$1,050,000.00 (c) 642,179.62	\$683,236.15	30-6-95	†\$12	8-11-95	\$9.33	3.54	\$235.00	171.55
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n, Ltd.	6,948	\$100	\$60	{ \$400,000.00 c \$72,219.93	\$346,816.85	31-12-95	†\$12	21-4-96	\$9.00	6.20	\$145.00	105.85
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,200,000	\$43,761.68	31-12-94	†\$5	8-1-96	\$10.00	5.00	\$200.00	146.00
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.	30,000	\$100	\$20	{ \$190,000.00 c \$103,000.00	\$553,646.69	31-12-95	†\$2	27-3-96	\$1.83	6.78	\$27.00	19.71
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>												
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Ltd.	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,000,000	\$260,712.64	31-12-95	†\$9.05	.....	\$13.02	3.97	\$327.75	235.26
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$875,000	\$175,666.14	31-12-95	†\$4.00	2-3-96	\$5.33	5.67	\$94.00	68.52
<i>Wharves.</i>												
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	15,100	\$100	\$100	\$94,089.75	.....	31-12-95	†\$6.00	20-3-96	\$6.67	5.44	.....	122.50
H'kew Wharf H. C. & W. C. Co.	2,100	\$50	\$50	.....	.....	31-10-94	*\$12	29-11-95	\$3.50	6.36	.....	55.00
H'kong & K'loon Wh. & G. Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$50	\$50	.....	\$13,316.59	31-12-95	†\$1.25	17-2-96	\$2.83	5.24	\$54.00	39.42
<i>Mining.</i>												
Meridian Con. M. & M. Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$100	.....	\$138,021.47	31-12-95	none	.....	none	.....	.....	3.50
Punjom Mining Co. Ltd.	60,000	\$4	\$32	.....	\$12,929.79	30-9-95	{ none none	.....	.....	.....	\$14.00	10.22
Do. pref. shares.	30,000	\$1	\$1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$3.90	2.85
Jebeu Mining & Trading Co. Ltd.	45,000	\$5	\$5	\$10,000.00	\$554.42	13-2-96	*5%	15-10-94	\$0.48	16.00	\$3.00	2.19
Ranb A'lian Gold Min. Co. Ltd.	200,000	£1	13/10	none	\$4,269.16.1	31-3-96	\$0.21	28-12-93	.....	.....	\$5.25	3.83
<i>Tugs and Cargo Boats.</i>												
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ltd.	1,000	\$100	\$100	\$53,000.00	\$818.50	31-12-95	†\$5	15-6-96	\$16.33	7.60	.....	215.00
Taku Tug and Lighter Co., Ltd.	8,600	T. \$50	T. \$50	{ TT. \$1,000.00 c 25,235.77	\$12,937.43	31-12-95	17%	23-7-96	\$7.67	6.88	T. \$111.50	...
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co. Ltd.	2,000	\$100	\$100	\$74,788.67	\$26,407.72	31-12-95	17%	5-8-96	\$15.33	7.86	.....	195.00
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co. Ltd.	1,000	\$100	\$100	\$42,152.84	\$1,477.72	31-12-95	15%	5-8-96	\$13.00	7.22	.....	180.00
<i>Sugar Companies.</i>												
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co. Ltd.	5,000	\$50	\$50	.....	\$8,271.00	31-10-95	†\$2	23-1-96	\$1.67	3.88	.....	44.00
China Sugar Refining Co. Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$100	none	\$244,332.45	31-12-95	†\$4	28-3-95	\$10.33	9.84	\$105.00	76.65
Luzon Sugar Refining Co. Ltd.	7,000	\$100	\$100	none	\$9,727.18	31-12-95	†\$5	.....	\$2.67	4.07	\$65.50	47.81
<i>Lands.</i>												
Sh. Land Investment Co., Ltd.	17,566	\$50	\$50	.....	.....	31-12-95	14%	20-7-96	\$3.67	4.70	.....	78.00
Do. do.	2,434	\$50	\$30	\$39,646.23	\$3,898.01	31-12-95	14%	20-7-96	\$2.20	3.80	.....	58.00
H'kong Land Invest. & A. Co. Ltd.	50,000	\$100	\$50	\$1,250,000	\$46,867.42	31-12-95	14%	3-8-96	\$4.00	5.44	\$73.50	53.29
Kowloon Land & Building Co. Ltd.	6,000	\$50	\$30	none	\$244.40	31-12-95	†\$0.80	31-1-96	\$0.73	3.94	\$18.50	13.50
Humphreys Estate & F. Co. Ltd.	25,400	\$10	\$10	\$30,000.00	\$2,718.61	31-12-95	17%	25-3-95	\$0.48	5.05	9.50	6.93
<i>Industrial.</i>												
Major Brothers, Ltd.	6,000	\$50	\$50	.....	\$9,686.33	31-10-95	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42.50
Ewo Cotton Sp. & W. Co., Ltd.	10,000	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	First year	.....	.....	.....	.....	85.00
International Cotton Man. Co. Ltd.	10,000	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	First year	.....	.....	.....	.....	97.50
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	First year	.....	.....	.....	.....	100.00
Soy Chee Cotton Spin. Co. Ltd.	2,000	\$500	\$400	.....	.....	.....	First year	.....	.....	.....	.....	400.00
Shanghai Ice Co.	540	\$100	\$100	\$6,500.00	.....	31-10-95	†\$12	11-12-95	\$11.00	7.10	.....	155.00
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>												
Shanghai Gas Co.	3,000	\$100	\$100	\$100,000	\$12,802.91	31-12-95	†\$6.00	14-7-96	.....	.....	.....	206.06
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	7,200	£20	£20	\$20,000.00	\$11,572.50	31-12-95	†\$4.96	25-7-96	\$11.02	4.39	.....	251.00
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.	6,500	\$20	\$20	\$5,455.11	\$80,530.33	31-12-95	†\$3.70	.....	\$9.09	9.82	.....	92.50
Shanghai-Langkai Tob. Co., Ltd.	1,590	\$100	\$100	.....	\$186,229.23	31-12-95	none	.....	.....	.....	.....	600.00
Do. Founders'	10	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nom.	nom.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.	1,800	\$50	\$50	\$8,053.66	\$4,687.44	31-12-95	†\$4	24-4-96	\$4.50	6.92	.....	65.00
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ltd.	1,200	\$100	\$100	.....	\$811,267.94	31-12-95	17%	25-5-93	\$2.33	5.18	\$45.00	32.85
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.	6,000	\$20	\$20	\$75,000.00	\$9,020.01	29-2-96	†\$2.31	3-9-96	\$2.40	7.26	\$34.00	24.82
A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$10	\$10	\$125,000	\$8,015.44	31-12-95	†5%	22-5-96	\$0.90	7.50	\$12.00	8.76
Bell's Asbestos Eastern	3,000	£1	£1	.....	.....	31-12-95	None.	.....	.....	.....	.....	nom.
Agency, Ltd.	5,200	£1	0.15.0	.....	£47.0.3	31-12-95	.....	.....	.....	.....	£6.00	nom.
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.	30,000	\$10	\$8	none	\$5,119.23	30-4-96	†5%	22-6-95	\$0.13	1.86	\$7.00	5.11

* For half year. † For year. ‡ Interim dividend. § Final dividend for business year. § A deficit. (a) Exclusive of accrued interest. (c) Insurance Fund. (d) Depreciation Fund. (e) Reserve against Exchange and Investment Fluctuations. (f) Bonus. (g) Assuming that they run for the full term. For all Dollar shares the exchange is fixed at 73.

J. P. BISSET & Co.